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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

THE Czar Nicholas has gone to his account. The disturber of the nations is at rest. The absolute lord and master of sixty millions of human beings—the inheritor of the largest empire on the globe—the man whose will was law;—upon whose lips hung the issues of destiny;—who, but yesterday, convulsed Europe, and troubled Asia, and brought into collision the forces of Barbarism and Civilisation;—the scourge of the world—the pest of humanity—the most selfish, the most cunning, the most majestic of despots, has been suddenly stricken down, in the plenitude of his power and splendour. He whose vast ambition threw a shadow of portentous darkness over the globe has been removed, and there is sunshine among the nations within the whole circle of his influence. The world feels that an evil thing has been taken out of its way, and hopes that his like may never again arise to trouble and perplex it. Few, indeed, imagined that this great Potentate would so soon have followed to the grave the countless victims of his ambition; and that the murdered Turks of Sinope the brave British and French soldiers who fell resisting his oppression, and his own 20,000 miserable serfs who perished but yesterday in the snows of Simpheropol, would so speedily find a companion in that insatiable tomb which spares neither the high nor the lowly, and stand on an equality with their destroyer before the judgment-seat of God. On an equality? Perhaps not. The greater the power, the more condign the punishment of him who abuses it. But on such a point we forbear to dwell. The curtain of the grave is between the Czar Nicholas and all living men, and it is not for them to mete out his punishment. His memory alone remains for their verdict. Pity for the sake of one so mighty but now so small and mean, must not blind their eyes to the wickedness he committed. The moralist must condemn his conduct while he deplores his fate; and must judge the actions of the dead for the sake of the living, and for the example and the warning of posterity. There has been too much of false sympathy for the dead and of spurious philosophy in the judgment of their actions. Why should the living forego their just indignation because he who deserved it is in the grave? If Nicholas was a curse to the world while he moved and breathed upon it, it is neither unjust nor ungenerous to remember the fact while the results of his wickedness are still active and fruitful. He has been the cause of more misery and evil than any man of his day; and woe betide the world if it forget such actions as he committed, or cease to dis-

prove of such sanguinary and remorseless ambition as that of which he was guilty.

It is not easy to describe the awe, not unmingled with a feeling of satisfaction and relief, which pervaded all ranks and classes of society when the authentic intelligence was first received in London. A sensation as profound was created in every other capital

in Europe;—in every household, and in every haunt and assemblage of men. The proudest and the meanest humbled themselves in spirit before the Great Disposer of Events; and many thousands, if not millions of people, regarded the catastrophe as a direct interposition of Heaven to rescue the nations from the oppression and wrong which the continued life of the despot seemed but

too likely to inflict upon them. The impression will not be soon effaced. Even in the extraordinary times in which the lot of this generation has been cast, when great events succeed each other with such marvellous rapidity, and in such unexpected combinations—the downfall of Nicholas will long stand pre-eminent in the imagination of the people. The awful lesson goes direct to the heart of the multitude. Not even a visible sign and portent in the sky, or an audible voice from the heavens, proclaiming the vanity and littleness of all earthly things—if such revelations of the Divine will were vouchsafed in our day—could have spoken more solemnly to the reason and the conscience of mankind. As a moral lesson, this age has seen nothing which can equal it. Belshazzar has gone, and none but the sons and daughters of Belshazzar have a tear for his fate, or would recall him from the tomb, where the wicked cease from troubling; and where he—both weary and wicked—lies at rest.

The first impression on almost every mind was that the Czar had been poisoned or strangled. Such catastrophes are familiar things in Russian history, and they are the natural results of an ultra-despotism. If the tyrant had not the spectral fear of assassination present in his thoughts by day and in his dreams by night, the great law of compensation would cease to be universal. There would be nothing to temper his evil passions—no check upon his caprice—no limit to his self-indulgence—no inevitable Nemesis to avenge the wrongs he might commit, and teach him that he, too, was but flesh and blood, and frail as the meanest and most abject of his victims. So probable did such a termination of the Czar's career appear to his own household, that it is known to have embittered the life of the Empress, and has been openly predicted hundreds of times within the last twelvemonth as certain to follow the first great discomfiture of his arms. Yet circumstances would seem to show that the death was natural, and that it was mainly produced by mental agony consequent upon baffled hopes and defeated projects. But in this case "the balances of Heaven are just." The Avenging Angel treads in the footsteps of guilt. The misdeed carries its punishment in its own bosom. No man, not even a King, can fly from him.



THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—(SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 234.)

self, and avoid the consequences of his transgressions. It is neither physically safe nor mentally wholesome to possess unlimited power. To be the uncontrolled master of the lives of millions—to be the foremost man of all the earth—to hold in one's hand the destiny of the present, and, perhaps, of a future generation—to rank as a god or a demi-god in the estimation of myriads of obsequious slaves and superstitious barbarians—to be surrounded with sycophants and flatterers, with panders and parasites, is perilous to the soul and the body of the strongest and the wisest of men. The fine mechanism of the nerves and brain cannot endure such stress and strain. By jealousy, and suspicion, by daily and hourly caution, by coat of mail, by armed guards, by tasters of his meat and of his drink, by a life of misery and anxiety, the tyrant may foil the assassin; but the very fierceness of the combat evokes a new and more insidious enemy. In the heart and in the brain lurks the demon of disease or madness—slowly and imperceptibly at work on those delicate tissues which guard the reason and the life. We may imagine the pangs which that proud spirit endured during the last six months, when his character, long before damaged to the outer world, was imperilled among his own people; when his armies were defeated, not only by the bravery of two great and powerful allies, but by the Turks, whom he despised; when his territory was desecrated by invasion, his fleets rendered useless, his maritime commerce annihilated, his dependants shaken in their allegiance, his friends converted into foes, and his foes rendered strong by combination and enthusiasm. It is not wonderful that nature should give way in so unequal a struggle.

The question is asked in every resort of men—what are the consequences which are likely to flow from this unexpected catastrophe? The new Czar, Alexander II., who has succeeded peacefully to his father's throne, is believed to be a man of moderate views and enlightened character. But his proclamation on assuming power is warlike in the extreme. He asserts Poland and Finland to be inseparably united with Russia; thereby defying the Allies to restore the independence of the one, or re-establish the connection of the other with the Power to which it rightfully belongs. He also declares his policy to be that of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of Nicholas; in other words, the policy of war, of aggression, and of conquest. The Grand Duke Alexander may have been wise and just; but the Czar is the Czar. As such he is the representative of a system, the heir of a policy as well as of a principle, the custodian of a nation's prejudices, passions, ambitions, and hopes; and part of a grand machine with which he must work, or be crushed beneath its wheels. It is natural that the Emperors and people of Russia should strive to extend their frontiers to the sea; it is quite as natural and more just that the other States of Europe should strive to prevent the realisation of the project. Between Russia and the rest of Europe there is necessary and inevitable hostility. Russia will never lose sight of her object. She pursues it in peace no less vigorously, and perhaps more successfully, than in war. Patient, perfidious, and persevering, the great object is never absent from the mind and councils of her Czars;—and Europe has not, and cannot have, any real security against their aggression, other than the security which can be exacted at the cannon's mouth. Had the proclamation of the new Czar been more pacific, the policy of the Allies ought to have been exactly the same as it must now be, when he has sounded the war-trumpet, and defied the world by hurling in its face the significant names of such Sovereigns as Peter and Catherine the Great. Europe thus knows what it has to expect. To the fears, and not to the sense of justice, of the Czars must the appeal be made. Treaties do not bind them; considerations of honour and humanity have no place in their councils. Whenever the moment arrives, when a portion of Turkish or any other territory can be stolen or conquered they are prepared to strike. We believe, for many reasons, that the death of the late Czar is a calamity; and that the unwise politicians and Sovereigns of Germany—aided, perhaps, by the timid, the ignorant, and the selfish nearer home—may endeavour, in consequence to bring the present war to a premature conclusion, by patching up a precarious and dishonourable peace. But even Manchester itself, as well as Vienna and Berlin, may be assured that a peace hastily made, without a "material guarantee"—without the capture of Sebastopol—and without the payment by Russia of the whole expenses of the present war, would be a peace that would not last a moment beyond the time when it might suit the whim or the policy of Russia to break it. So far from believing "that nothing is changed," by the death of Nicholas, we believe that the position of Europe has been rendered still more perilous by that event. There is only one contingency that would improve it, and that is the absolute and unconditional surrender of the new Emperor. Unless—and until—that event happens, the policy of the Allies should be WAR with redoubled energy;—WAR in the Baltic and in the Black Sea—WAR on every side of the Russian dominions.

COPIES OF PICTURES.—An application of a novel nature was made by Mr. Darvill, solicitor, at Marlborough-street Police-court on Monday. In 1851 Mr. Ward, the well-known artist, painted a picture known as "James the Second Receiving the Intelligence of the Landing of the Prince of Orange." The painting was purchased by Mr. Jacob Bell, of Langham-place, who gave Mr. Ward the usual permission to make an artist's copy. This copy was subsequently sold to Messrs. Melton and Clarke, picture-dealers, who again sold it to a person named Pashall, residing near Preston. Some short time ago, Mr. Ward was informed that a picture was in the market which he was asserted to have painted. Mr. Ward made inquiry, and ascertained that the picture was a copy of the artist's copy of the "James the Second" painting sold to Messrs. Melton and Clarke. A copy, therefore, of the artist's copy had been made by an inferior artist, and an attempt was made to palm it off as an original, whereby an injury was inflicted on Mr. Ward's artistic reputation, and a fraud committed on the purchaser. Now, as Mr. Ward was unable to tell how far this manufacture had proceeded, and how many spurious works were in existence, he had instructed him (Mr. Darvill) to come to that Court, and to detail the facts, in the hope that some way would be pointed out by which Mr. Ward would be protected from this kind of injury and injustice. The public, also, ought to be put on their guard against this system of spurious copies, as, if he was correctly instructed, many other cases of spurious paintings foisted on the public as original were likely to come to light. He was not sure that it would not be necessary, owing to the defective state of the law, to seek the aid of Parliament for an enactment that should provide means to check and punish fraud; possibly that end might be attained by declaring that original paintings should be taken to some public body—the Society of Arts, for instance—and be then stamped and authenticated in such a way as to give force and validity to the genuineness of the painting. Mr. Hardwick admitted that, as the law stood, it was a serious matter to artists. An inferior copy sold as an original was certainly calculated to damage the reputation of the most eminent artist. Mr. Darvill thanked the magistrate for his attention. He hoped, however, that an exposure of the frauds on artists by the public press would put the public on its guard, and at the same time afford some protection to artists.

Statistical returns prove that Paris is the place where the greatest number of imprisonments for debt take place; there are as many in the capital alone as throughout the whole of France.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Every particle of public attention is, of course, so engrossed by the intelligence of the death of the Emperor Nicholas, and the speculations that arise therefrom—the results, probable and possible—the influences and the interests connected with, and likely to be acted upon by, the new state of things—that there is little or nothing else attended to, or considered worthy of interest. The prevalent idea that unfair means had been resorted to to produce this result seems entirely to have given way before the details published of the last hours of the Autocrat. The presumptions—leaning partly on the present changed position of affairs, partly on the more tranquil, reasonable, and pacific character of the new Emperor—are here all for peace; but of course everything must, as yet, be mere speculation.

The projected expedition of the Emperor and Empress remains wholly in abeyance, until further particulars of the progress of events are known; much to the regret of the latter, who has all along earnestly desired the voyage, and has been with much interest engaged in superintending the arrangement of her wardrobe and other preparations—including a variety of purchases destined for presents—for the journey. It appears that the ladies designed to accompany her Majesty were directed to include in their travelling baggage a certain number of ball-dresses. What an astonishment for the natives of Constantinople! what an occasion for enlarging the views of the harem on the subject of feminine attire!

The absurd rumour which attributed to M. Emile de Girardin the authorship of the brochure lately published in Belgium on the subject of the conduct of the War in the East, and the Crimea, and signed "Un Officier Général," had gained such force—notwithstanding its evident falsity—that for nearly a week the door of the eminent publicist was besieged by persons crowding to inquire as to the truth of the report which resulted from it—whether he had not exchanged his domicile in the Champs Elysées for a less commodious one within the walls of a State prison. In consequence of the importance attached to both rumours, M. de Girardin found it necessary to publish in the *Presse* a formal denial of a statement which, at its first circulation, he considered as unworthy of attention.

The ranks of the Legitimist party have just lost one of their oldest, and personally firmest adherents, the Duc de Grammont, who, after an illness of many years' standing, expired almost suddenly and without a struggle, at his residence in the Rue de la Ville l'Evêque, on Saturday night. The Duc de Grammont was one of the best specimens of a class now nearly extinct in France as a personal type. Possessed of one of the proudest names that belonged to the list of the *ancienne noblesse*, great beauty, singular grace and distinction of manner, and instinct with the most chivalric ideas of right and honour, he sacrificed fortune, condition, ease—all that most men prize so highly—to follow, with his family, into exile a Sovereign who felt—or, at all events, showed—little sense of the extent of the devotion. The Duc de Grammont—who, in consequence of the well-known and constantly-avowed principle of his family, found in his early youth no honourable opening of a career in his native country—was principally educated in England; to which country his sympathies were so warmly bound, that he entered the British Army, attained the grade of Captain in the 7th or 10th Hussars, and served with distinction through all the Peninsular War. At the downfall of the Bourbons, the Duc de Grammont entirely retired from all participation in the events or politics of the day. Upwards of ten years since, he was seized with the distressing and complicated malady which gave him neither rest nor respite during its continuance, weekly threatened to terminate his existence, and finally brought him to the grave. The Duc de Grammont married the beautiful and only sister of the Comte d'Orsay, then but sixteen, and leaves three sons—the present Duc, now Minister at Turin; and two daughters—the elder married to the Marquis du Prat, the representative of another of the ancient noble families of France.

Last week took place, at the Malmaison, the marriage of young Prince Czartorisky with the eldest daughter of the Queen Christina—the same who, last year, was on the point of a union with the Duc de Casigliano, whose untimely death interrupted the realisation of the project. The bridal ceremony took place, with considerable éclat, in the Chapel of the Malmaison, and was performed by the Cardinal Dounet. On the following day was given a splendid reception at the residence of the Prince Czartorisky, at which were present the bride and bridegroom—the former blazing with diamonds.

Madame George Sand, whose declining health requires a complete change of air and scene, is about to make a voyage into Italy, it is reported with the intention of finding materials for a new work; but, whatever may be her ultimate design in this respect, the restoration of her health is the present object of the expedition.

A recent book sale of considerable interest has attracted much attention from the reading public: this is the collection of Pierre Didot, the celebrated *typographe*; among which were found a number of the most valuable and curious books which have been out of print for years, and unattainable in the trade. A copy of the "Roman de la Rose" sold for 2448 francs; the finest edition existing of Racine, for 15,778 francs; a Virgil and Horace, for 8628 francs; and a variety of other books at proportional prices. The sale altogether brought nearly 70,000 francs.

Great complaints are made by the Paris merchants of the insufficiency of the extent of the Palais d'Industrie, which, in order to give due hospitality to the foreign exhibitors, leaves so little space for the home produce, that some branches of French commerce find themselves wholly excluded. Upwards of 6000 demands from persons wishing to exhibit have, perforce, been refused by the Commission; and it is said some of the excluded propose to address a petition to the Emperor in hopes that some means may be found to remedy this state of things.

The theatres give little of interest. At the Français appeared on Tuesday the first representation of a pretty and *spirituelle* one-act piece by Méry, "L'Essai du Mariage." The plot is slight and impossible; but the writing, like everything of its author, sparkling with wit, brilliancy, and finesse, and the rôle of the heroine is gracefully and intelligently performed by Mlle. Denain. Concerts, of all degrees of excellence and mediocrity, abound, as they are wont, at this season. Nadaud has just composed a charming *opéra-comique*, words and music, called "La Volière;" it has been performed in private only.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN BELGIUM.

At the commencement of the sitting of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives on Friday, the 2nd inst., M. de Brouckere, Minister of Foreign Affairs, rose and said:—"Several recent votes of this House have decided the Minister of the Interior to withdraw from the Cabinet. Another Minister at the same time declared that his personal situation would not permit him to continue longer in the Government, and he also tendered his resignation. In presence of this double withdrawal, the other members of the Cabinet, not wishing to separate from their two colleagues, who possess all their confidence and sympathy, considered it their duty to place their resignation in the King's hands." After some conversation as to whether the Chamber should continue its sitting or not, the question was decided in the negative, and the Chamber adjourned indefinitely in the midst of considerable agitation. The principal reason of the resignation is that the Chamber voted against the Administration of the Interior on various questions, and especially on that relative to the University Jury. The *Independence* of Brussels of Wednesday says:—"We are assured that M. Delfosse, President of the Chamber of Representatives, who is at present at Liège, has been summoned to Brussels, and is to be received this day by the King."

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Another reverse in the weather—just about the time that people at home were suffering from extreme cold—had rather hindered active operations before Sebastopol: so that the latest authentic intelligence, which comes down to the 24th ult., brings no information of much importance. The accounts, however, still continue highly encouraging. The troops were in excellent spirits, and sickness was decreasing. Fresh reinforcements were pouring in daily, and the physical necessities of the army were duly supplied. That the Allied Generals are impressed with the necessity of pushing the campaign with vigour, is proved by the embarkation of every available man at Constantinople, by the assault in question, and by the activity displayed along the British lines at Balaklava.

During the night of the 23rd of February the second corps of the French army assaulted the works of counter-approach in course of construction by the enemy, and carried them, but not without sustaining a serious loss. This auspicious commencement will, no doubt, encourage fresh nocturnal attacks, which may even be directed with success against the Russian redoubts. The advantage possessed by a cool and determined assailant in similar assaults is immense, as was demonstrated even in the weak and ill-directed sorties of the Russian garrison of Sebastopol on the Allied lines.

A despatch from Vice-Admiral Bruat, dated Kamiesch, Feb. 24th, gives the following account of the affair:—

In the night of the 22nd the garrisons of Sebastopol established important works of counter-approach in front of our works, on the slope of the plateau which descends towards the small careening bay. General Canrobert caused these works to be carried on the night of the 26th, by the troops of the second corps. This affair has done the greatest credit to our army, and if possible augmented the ascendancy which it has never ceased to hold over the enemy. Our loss is said to amount to 100 wounded.

The works referred to in this despatch are in another described as having been constructed near the Malakoff tower. Prince Menschikoff, in reporting on the French attack, says that it was mainly directed against a redoubt which his troops had built, and that the assailants were repulsed with a loss of 600 men.

A reconnaissance, attempted by Sir Colin Campbell, on the morning of the 19th ult., proved unsuccessful on account of a severe snow-storm.

The troops which turned out on our side consisted of nearly all the available men of the Cavalry Division, under General Scarlett, the remains of the Heavy Brigade numbering about 350, and consisting of Royals, Scots Greys, Inniskillings, 4th Dragoon Guards, and 5th Dragoon Guards; of the Light Cavalry Brigade, under Colonel Doherty, mustering just sixty-eight men, being the fragments of the 4th Light Dragoons, the 8th Royal Irish Hussars, the 11th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons, and the 17th Lancers, one troop Royal Horse Artillery, and one nine-pounder battery of the Royal Marines over the heights: a portion of the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, under Major Macdonnell; and of the 42nd, 79th, 71st, and 93rd Highlanders. They were also accompanied by the Zouaves on the heights. These troops were under arms soon after midnight, and ere four o'clock they were moved down towards the plain, and proceeded towards Kamara and Tchorguna through the snow-storm, which increased in violence and severity as the morning dawned, and protracted the darkness of night. The Rifles preceded the advance, with the Highland Light Infantry, in skirmishing order. Strict orders were given that there was to be no firing in case the troops came upon the enemy, and it was hoped that we might surprise them, but the density of the falling snow prevented our men from seeing before them more than a few yards, and after daylight it was impossible to make out an object six feet in advance. However, the skirmishers managed to get hold of three Russian sentries, belonging probably to the picket at Kamara, and their comrades gave the alarm, for as our troops advanced the Cossacks and infantry videttes fell back, firing their carbines and muskets into the darkness. The drums of the enemy were heard beating, and they had time to turn out while we were making our way towards them. Through rifts in the veil of snow their columns could be observed slowly moving back towards the heights over the Tchornaya, and it was quite impossible to form a notion of their strength or position, but it is thought they mustered about 5000 men. By their movements, it seemed as if they had strong reserves in their rear. By this time our men had begun to suffer greatly from the cold, to which they had been exposed for several hours. Their fingers were so cold that they could not "fix bayonets" when the word was given, and could scarcely keep their rifles in their hands. The cavalry horses had almost refused to face the snow—frost-bites began to occur, and men's ears, noses, and fingers gave symptoms of being attacked. The Highlanders, who had been ordered to take off their comfortable fur caps, and to put on their becoming but less suitable Scotch bonnets, suffered especially, and some of them were severely frost-bitten in the ears—indeed, there was not a regiment out in which cases of gelatio, chiefly of the ears and fingers, did not occur. Scarcely had the enemy appeared in sight before the snow fell more heavily than ever, and hid them from our view. The French were not visible—one company could not see its neighbour—each regiment was hidden from the other. The men were becoming momentarily less able to advance. There were no reserves to fall back on in case of a check. The space between Tchorgoun and our lines was considerable, and the strength of the enemy was unknown. Under these circumstances it would have been exceedingly unwise to proceed with the reconnaissance. The attempt had been defeated by the weather, it was a *coup manqué*, and the best thing that could be done was to retire as soon as possible. Sir Colin very unwillingly gave the order to return, and the men arrived at their quarters at eleven o'clock a.m. very much fatigued and exhausted by the cold, with no other result than the capture of three prisoners and the exchange of some random volleys, in which no mischief to us was occasioned by the Russians, or in all probability to them by us. The enemy were, however, put on the alert, and must have spent a very unpleasant day and night afterwards. Had the movement succeeded the greater part of their force might have fallen into our hands.

The defence of Eupatoria in the affair of the 18th has restored the Turks to something of their former reputation. It seems to have been a most gallant affair, and the Ottoman troops deserve great credit for the coolness with which they received the assault, and the energy with which they repulsed it. From a letter written on the spot it appears that the Russian force was 30,000 strong, with from 70 to 100 guns, and five regiments of cavalry. The army appears to have been that of Liprandi, and thus the Turks have created a diversion, which has delivered Balaklava from the danger by which it has been so long threatened. The storming force of the Russians consisted of two fine regiments, who came up with great spirit. The Turks lay down until the enemy were quite close, and then jumped up and poured in a murderous volley, which threw the Russians into confusion. The gun-boats assisted most actively, the long Lancasters throwing balls to a distance of nearly two miles into the enemy's columns.

The loss of the Russians is much greater than was at first stated; no less than 453 bodies were found on the field, and many are said to have been removed. The Turks are to be joined by an adequate French force, when they will march southward and intrench themselves on the north of Sebastopol, so as to prevent the introduction of those supplies, the failure of which gives the best hope of a speedy surrender of the fortress. Even should they remain inactive they will render much service in employing a large force to watch them. Eupatoria is not far distant from the great road along which all the troops and supplies of the enemy must be brought. It will be necessary for the Russian Generals always to keep a large body of men in that neighbourhood, in order that their communications may not be intercepted. The recent attack on the place shows how greatly the enemy feels the danger of such a force in the rear, and it is singular that the Muscovite Generals should have allowed the Ottoman troops to establish themselves in such force before striking a blow.

The blockade of the Russian ports in the Black Sea has been notified by the Admirals. Odessa is blockaded by the French steamer *Mogador* and the British frigate *Gladiator*; Anapa, Soujouk Kalé, Kertsch, and Kaffa are watched by the *Leopard* and *Berthollet*.

THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

The negotiations have begun at last. Lord John Russell arrived at Vienna on Sunday evening, and the first conference of the Ambassadors took place on Tuesday. The subject discussed is said to have been the precise meaning of "the third of the guarantee points." As regards the result of their discussion the telegraph is silent. The discussions and the resolutions which may now be taken will determine whether we are to regard the young Emperor of Russia as the antagonist of Europe, the assailant of the Ottoman Empire, and the disturber of the public peace, isolated from almost every other State, and unsupported by a single declared ally; or whether the Cabinet of St. Petersburg will seize this opportunity to bury its hostilities in the tomb which is not yet closed, and to renew on equitable terms those pacific relations with the rest of Europe without which no empire can be prosperous or secure.

The *German Journal of Frankfurt* has a letter from Vienna, which states that Lord John Russell and M. de Bourqueney have agreed upon an identical memorandum to be submitted to the Vienna Conference on the part of England and France. The interpretation of the third point is indicated as distinctly including the transformation of Sebastopol into a simple commercial port—the fortresses thereof being destroyed. The proceedings of the conference are to be circumscribed within fifteen days; within which period the Russian Envoy must give in his reply to the proposition of the Allies.

ILLNESS AND DEATH OF THE CZAR.

Although the death of the Emperor of Russia has taken the public by surprise, it is now said that his own family were quite aware of his health having been in a critical state for some time. Letters from St. Petersburg of the 19th ult. state that the Emperor then kept his bed by order of his first physician, M. Mandt. The Empress was also ill, and confined to her bed; and, as the apartments occupied by the Emperor and Empress are situated one on the ground floor and the other on the first floor of the Palace, they had no direct communication, and did not see each other. The Emperor, however, must have called the Empress to him, as it appears from one of the bulletins that before his death he had assembled round him all the members of his family present at St. Petersburg, in order to give them his blessing. It is said that the illness of the Emperor was owing to a cold. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, he continued his usual occupations; he was desirous to see everything for himself, and in the most minute details. He visited the soldiers in their barracks; he passed long and frequent reviews, forgetting the precautions which his age required in such a climate and in such a severe season. To all the observations made to him by his children and by his most devoted servants he replied that he had something else to do besides taking care of his health. He had, however, attended to it for more than a year past, and at times felt some uneasiness. He said that he had reached, and even exceeded, the number of years which God had allowed to others of his race, and that his end was not far distant. He had treated himself according to his own ideas; he had insisted on his physician putting him on a regimen which would prevent his getting corpulent, of which he had a singular dread.

On the 27th ult., the Imperial physician in attendance, seeing that his Majesty was suffering severely from influenza, earnestly begged him not to expose himself to the cold air on parade, with the thermometer at 12 deg. below zero. To which the Emperor replied:—"My dear doctor, you have done your duty; now I will do mine;" and then, calling for his cloak, he proceeded to parade, and remained above an hour.

A bulletin, dated shortly after the catastrophe, announced that the Emperor Nicholas I. expired, after a short struggle, at ten minutes after midday, March 2. A short time before his death he desired the Empress to announce to his Royal brother-in-law of Prussia that he (the Emperor) "bequeathed to his friendly solicitude his family and the Russian people, and bade him not forget their late father's will." This message, received by telegraph at Berlin, was instantly replied to, it is added, by assurances in the same sense.

Immediately after the receipt of the news at Berlin of the Emperor's death the King commissioned the Prince of Prussia to set off at once to St. Petersburg, to express the condolence of the Royal Family with the Empress, and to be present at the Emperor's funeral. The Prince's travelling equipages were accordingly immediately got ready, but his physician advised so strongly against the journey in the Prince's present state of health, that the King found it better to commission Prince Charles to go instead. He accordingly set off on Sunday morning, accompanied by his sister, the Grand Duchess Alexandrine of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The Crown Prince of Wurtemberg and the Grand Duchess Olga arrived at Berlin on Saturday afternoon, and were met by their Majesties, and conducted to the Russian Legation, whence they continued their route to St. Petersburg that night. Duke George of Srelitz and the Grand Duchess Catherine proceeded direct from New Strelitz, via Stettin. It is understood that the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael were ordered back to St. Petersburg as soon as their father's malady assumed a serious aspect.

THE NEW EMPEROR, ALEXANDER II.

On Friday afternoon, a few hours after the death of his father, the Czarowitch proclaimed his assumption of the throne under the name of Alexander II. Nicolaiewitch, and received the homage of the dignitaries of the realm. The whole garrison was to perform the same ceremony on the 3rd. On the 2nd, Count Panin, the Minister of Justice, put seals upon the private cabinet of the late Emperor, in presence of the heir. The Empress, though much affected by the death of her husband, is said to have been better than might have been expected after the shock she had received.

A despatch from Königsberg, dated the 7th inst., gives the following summary of the manifesto of the new Emperor of Russia:—

The manifesto of Alexander II. has arrived. After announcing the sudden and severe illness of the Emperor Nicholas, which terminated in his death, it says that, as the deceased devoted himself incessantly for the welfare of his subjects, "so do we also, on ascending the throne of Russia, and of Poland and Finland, inseparable from it, take a solemn oath before God to regard the welfare of our Empire as our only object. May Providence, which has selected us for so high a calling, be our guide and protector, that we may maintain Russia on the highest standard of power and glory, and in our person accomplish the incessant wishes and views of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of our father. May the zeal of our subjects assist us therein. We invoke and command the oath of allegiance to us and to the heir to the throne, our son Nicholas Alexandrowitch.

The accession of a new Czar being in Russia almost always accompanied by some political commotion, fears are entertained that, in the present state of excitement in Russia, the sanguinary scenes which took place when the Emperor Nicholas ascended the Throne may possibly be renewed. The Grand Duke Constantine is likely to become the chief of the party of resistance, represented by the old Muscovite party, against the party of moderation, of which the new Czar has always been considered as the centre of gravitation. The Russian Ambassador at Vienna affirms that there are no grounds for any such fear. According to him the late Emperor was quite aware of the opposite directions to which the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duke Constantine tended. Foreseeing that this might produce, sooner or later, intestine conflicts, he took the resolution to make the Grand Duke Constantine take in his presence on the Holy Gospels, an oath of fidelity and obedience to the heir of the Throne. The oath is said to have been taken on the occasion of the birth of the first son of the Hereditary Grand Duke by his marriage with the Princess Mary of Hesse. It is added that when the Czar saw that his end was approaching, he called the two Princes to his bedside, and before giving them his blessing, made the Grand Duke Constantine, in presence of his august mother, renew the oath of fidelity to his elder brother; and he obtained from both of them a solemn promise to remain for ever closely united, in order to save the country, which is threatened by the European coalition.

No authentic intelligence has yet been received from St. Petersburg as to the state of public feeling. It was rumoured on Wednesday that despatches had been received in Paris which described the Russian capital as in a state of great excitement. The nobles had met secretly, with a view of addressing the Emperor on the subject of arming the serfs. They proposed pointing out to Alexander the ruin which would accompany such a step, and the internal dangers that might follow. It was expected that St. Petersburg would be placed in a state of siege. The war party had already begun to threaten. The Emperor was reported to have declared his intention to follow out the policy laid down by Nicholas at the Congress of Vienna. Prince Gortschakoff's instructions had been confirmed. General Paskiewitch was opposed to the arming of the serfs, and had addressed the Emperor on the subject.

So far as can be ascertained the young Czar is very popular in Russia, and the general expectation is that he will not exercise the great authority of his father, as he does not inherit either his hauteur or his inflexibility. He will rather please, it is said by those who know him, as the Emperor Alexander I. did, by his mildness and his affability, and between the uncle and the nephew there is a very great similarity of character in numerous ways.

The reigning Empress of Russia, Maria Alexandrowna, daughter of the deceased Grand Duke Lewis II., of Hesse-Darmstadt, and born in 1824, is said to be a woman of strong sense and character, of amiable qualities, and possessing much influence over her consort. They have five children—four sons and one daughter. The present Czarowitch and eldest son, Nicholas Alexandrowitch, was born in 1843.

AMERICA.

By the steamer *Atlantic*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, we have advices from New York to the 21st ult.

The Senate has passed the bill for a railroad from the Mississippi to the Pacific by a vote of 24 to 21.

The President had vetoed the French Spoliation Bill.

The Navy Department had issued orders to New York, New Orleans, and Boston, to keep in a state of readiness certain steam-vessels chartered by Government for demand; it was understood they were to be against a filibustering expedition to Cuba.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AT BOULOGNE.

On Friday last the general and superior officers of the troops encamped in the neighbourhood of Boulogne, had the honour of dining with the Emperor, and in the evening his Majesty announced to his guests the death of the Emperor of Russia, which had reached him in two successive despatches—the one forwarded from Stuttgart and the other from the Hague. Shortly afterwards a despatch was received from London, stating that Lord Clarendon would leave on Saturday morning for Boulogne, to have an interview with the Emperor. The orders issued for the visit of his Majesty to the camps of Ambleteuse, Wimereux, and Honvaut, were accordingly countermanded. At one o'clock on Saturday an Ostend mail-steam, placed at the disposal of Lord Clarendon, hove in sight of Boulogne, and the Emperor immediately dispatched one of his Aides-de-Camp to receive the English Minister at the entrance of the harbour. Lord Clarendon got into the carriage with the Aide-de-Camp, and alighted at the Hôtel du Pavillon, where the Emperor awaited him. Lord Cowley and M. Drouyn de Lhuys arrived in the afternoon. A long conference took place between the Emperor and Lord Clarendon. The former, accompanied by Lord Cowley and M. Drouyn de Lhuys, left Boulogne on Sunday afternoon, and arrived in Paris at half-past six. The Empress went to the Boulogne railway-station, in the Place Lafayette, to meet his Majesty, and threw herself into his arms as he alighted from the train. Their Majesties then proceeded, without any escort, to the Tuilleries, where they arrived about seven o'clock.

DANGEROUS CONSPIRACY IN CUBA.

By the arrival of the steam-ship *Atrato* at Southampton, on Monday, we have intelligence from Cuba of a conspiracy against the Government. On the 7th ult., several persons had been arrested at Havannah, charged with the intention of assassinating the Governor-General. Among those taken into custody were—Dr. Ramon Pinto, Dr. Jose Echeverria, Administrator of the Havannah Railroad; and M. Cadalso, Administrator of the Court of Penalva. At a meeting of the conspirators, it was proposed to establish the constitution of Spain with the cry of "Long Live the Queen," when Pinto objected, and said that "the tree of liberty, to become fruitful, must be watered with blood, and that he would strike the first blow by assassinating the Captain-General in his box at the Opera. On the evening of the arrest of Pinto, he had only a short time before paid a visit to General Concha, by whom he was then, as always, received as an intimate friend. Pinto, it is said, could have had no reason to complain of the Spanish Government, and much less of Concha, as he had always been well treated and assisted, particularly by the latter. Information was given to General Concha from the United States by one of the conspirators who was dissatisfied. It was not believed at first, but soon afterwards the General received information to the same effect from a planter in the island, also one of the party, but who repented having joined it. Information was given that three expeditions would sail from the United States, and arrive on the coasts of Cuba simultaneously with the assassination of General Concha. It was said at Havannah that one part of the American expedition had left Baltimore. Numerous Spanish men-of-war were cruising on and off the coasts for the purpose of intercepting them; and, should they effect a landing, certain death awaits them, as the Government were well prepared to give them a warm reception. Besides the large army and numerous ships of war at Cuba, the Government could count on at least 70,000 or 80,000 men—old Spaniards—the greater part of whom have carried arms in the civil war of Spain, and who, in Cuba, have something to lose, and would fight to the last man.

By the steam-ship *Black Warrior*, which had arrived at New Orleans, when the last American steamer sailed for England, we have Havannah dates to the 15th of February. Great excitement prevailed, and new militia companies were being formed. The whole island had been declared in a state of siege, and a proclamation had been issued ordering the enlistment of all volunteers between the ages of eighteen and fifty who were capable of bearing arms. A military commission had been created for the eastern part of the island. It was reported that General Concha had sent to Porto Rico for more troops; that the British ship of the line *Boscawen* had left Havannah, and that she and the steamer *Medea* were engaged in conveying troops.

The British Rear-Admiral reviewed the troops with General Concha on the 12th ult. A decree was being enforced prohibiting the sale of firearms and ammunition. Her Majesty's ships *Esperanza* and *Vestal* were in port. The *Colossus* had left. The British Admiral had been received with great honour.

RIOTS IN AUSTRALIA.

The disturbances of the Ballarat gold diggings, of which we gave a brief notice last week, had not terminated when the last mail left Australia. On Sunday morning (December 3) about four o'clock, the military surrounded the camp formed by the armed diggers at Eureka, in which there were about 200 men. A body of cavalry fired over the heads of the diggers, which had no effect. The troops then poured in repeated volleys, which were returned by the diggers. After firing for about ten minutes the insurgents pulled down their banner—the Southern Cross—and surrendered. The troops immediately ceased firing, and took several of the leaders prisoners. Altogether 123 prisoners were taken, and about twenty-six killed. A large number of tents in the vicinity of the battle-field were burned. The casualties on the part of the soldiers were:—one private of the 12th, two ditto of the 40th, killed; Captain Wise, dangerously wounded; Lieutenant Paul, severely ditto; about thirty rank and file wounded.

TRADE IN BALACLAVA.—I mentioned the profits of honest tradesmen, and compared them to those of the money-making period of San Francisco and Sydney. I will quote a few examples to support my assertion. A Maltese tailor, who for some months sold clothes and mended them, has shut up his shop in the High-street, Balacava, and gone back to Valetta. Those who ought to know say that he netted £2000. Abraham, a Jew, who as a civil servant, got wages to the amount of £150 a year, complained of the stinginess of his master, and struck for higher wages. Sent away, he opened a shop in November last. He, too, has retired from business with something like £3000 or £4000. A French sailor, who had at one time been a baker, established about three months ago the first bakery in Balacava. He got possession of two ovens in one house; he hired gangs of French soldiers to bake for him, and to take their turns day and night. His ovens were always either full of bread or heating for a fresh supply. Gangs of French soldiers, too, foraged fuel for him. In London his loaves would sell for 2d. or 3d. In Balacava they sold, and readily, as fast as they were shot out, for 2s. Now, reckon the flour (from Varna and Constantinople) as high as you will, and put a very high figure on the price of labour, still a loaf which a London baker can sell for 3d. cannot cost the Balacava baker more than 1s. So there is 1s. profit on each loaf, and I am credibly informed that above 1000 loaves were baked in the twenty-four hours. The week in Camp has seven working days, and the profits of a week amount to 7000 shillings; those of a month to 30,000 shillings, or £1500. The baker has driven this trade about three months; profits, £4500. There was no lowering the price of bread; every one deprecated such a measure. We were all afraid of the baker's taking offence and going away. At two shillings per loaf, officers and officers' servants and Turks actually besieged the house at the periods of issue, and the minor grades literally fought for precedence. Meat and fowls were sent to the baker, who managed to underdo them as a special favour, whenever he could not well refuse conferring it. Charge, one shilling; and that shilling was paid down with delight. In the last few weeks a second bakery has been established; and now that the public are on the safe side, Colonel Harding has interfered with the price of bread, and fixed it at 1s. 6d. The baker grumbled awfully; but bakers wronged have remedies known to bakers only. The loaves are a little smaller and lighter, and you may trust the Frenchman that his profits are the same they were before. If the man holds out to the end of the year, even supposing that competition should lessen his gains, he may retire on an independent fortune of £10,000, and become a *propriétaire* in his own country.—*Letter from Balacava, Feb. 13.*

BUCHAREST AND VARNA TELEGRAPH.—A convention between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, signed at London on the 1st of February, provides for the establishment of a line of electric telegraph, in continuation of the Austrian lines, between Bucharest and Varna, passing through Schumla, Silistria, and Routschouk. The French Government is to construct the line, and half the expense is to be defrayed by the English Government; and the French Government is likewise to work the line, in consideration of an annual reimbursement of one-half of the expenses. Official despatches will have precedence of all others, and on a perfect equality for the two countries. The rate of charge for despatches is to be fixed by common agreement, and the receipts to be equally divided. The English Government will be allowed to have an agent attached to the administration of the line, to watch over British interests.

RESTORATION OF POLAND.—A very crowded meeting was held at the Manchester Town-hall on Monday evening, to consider the importance of the kingdom of Poland as an independent State in her relations to Europe. Mr. William Martin presided. Mr. J. Aspinall Turner briefly moved a resolution expressive of sympathy with the Polish nation, and the desire of the meeting that it should be reconstituted as an independent State. Mr. Absalom Watkin seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the reconstitution of Poland. The rev. gentleman concluded an eloquent speech by moving the adoption of a petition praying that as much favour might be shown for Poland as for Turkey.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. VII.)

It is creditable to the good taste and the good feeling of England that there has been little sign of exultation over the fall of the Emperor Nicholas. Even in the mixed and excitable throng of a theatrical audience, the announcement from the stage of the death of the great enemy of England was received without any expression of feeling beyond a profound sensation. There has been nothing in the shape of triumph in the tone of the public or the press; but the awfully sudden event has been received with a consciousness of a Divine interposition which, it is humbly hoped, is designed to restore, at an early period, the peace of the European world, and give a fresh impetus to the advance of civilisation, by removing the most powerful opponent of its progress.

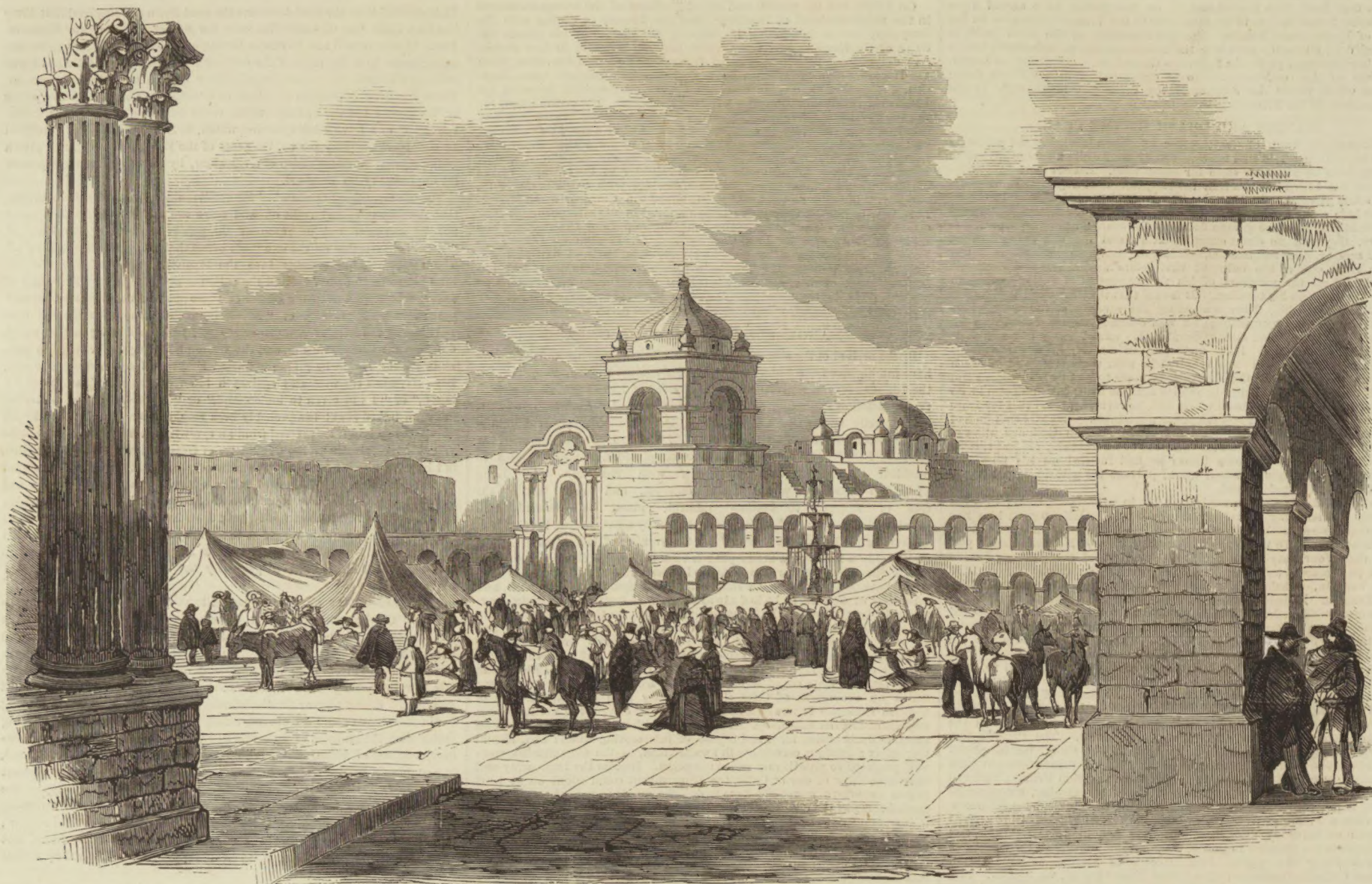
Though one topic has absorbed the public mind, there are other subjects that should not be lost sight of, and there are many matters that must not be smuggled out of reach of the public ear during the buzz of general conversation on the one great event that all are now speaking of. The Committee of Inquiry into the Mismanagement of the War is, after all, to be an open one, and the nation is not to be guilty of the folly of affecting to keep secret the details of those gross errors which are already notorious. The verdict of "mismanagement" has already been pronounced on the faith of newspaper reports, which are being verified every day that the Committee sits, and the effect of the inquiry will be to substantiate the verdict by giving a formal shape to the evidence. I would, however, warn the witnesses against a too frequent use of the words "I heard," or "I was given to understand," or "I was told;" for whatever has been talked about has probably been seen, and the proof of the alleged fact must in strictness proceed from an eye-witness. Mr. Stafford gave some valuable information to the Committee of facts within his own knowledge, but he gave a great deal that was not so valuable, because it was founded on mere hearsay. I would caution the Committee against receiving, and the public against forming a judgment upon any evidence, but that which relates to facts within the knowledge of the witnesses. Sir De Lacy Evans spoke with an admirable regard to the truth as it had come under his own observation, and refused to be drawn into statements founded on rumours that had reached him, however generally they might have been circulated and credited.

Literature—or at all events part literature—has received a compliment in the appointment of the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. It is rather strange that the two literary men who have recently been admitted to high office should both have been entrusted with the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. The selection has perhaps been made on the perverse principle of putting right men in the wrong places; for the literary mind, having generally a leaning to the imaginative and the unreal, would seem to be adapted for anything better than the realities of facts and figures. Sir G. C. Lewis is not, however, a writer of fiction like his predecessor the popular novelist; and, indeed, his productions hitherto have had all the dryness that the hardest matter of fact can require. It is said that he resigns the editorship of the *Edinburgh*, not out of regard to his official position, which would be strengthened rather than weakened by his control of a powerful review; but it is felt due to the impartiality of literature that he should not exercise the high office he has held in its republic while fettered by official trammels.

Talking of "official trammels," reminds one of the unpopularity which almost always falls upon a popular man directly he accepts a place in the Government. This arises from the general belief that the Government must be always opposed to the popular interest; and, indeed, it is always likely to be, if no man who has devoted himself to the public cause is permitted, without incurring odium and abuse, to enter the public service. Mr. Vernon Smith was hooted the other day, on his re-election, because he had become President of the Board of Control, as if his duties as a member of Parliament and a public servant were incompatible. Liberal constituencies are always complaining that we are not governed by the right men; but, if one who has been chosen by one of these Liberal constituencies to represent themselves, should accept the offer of a place in the Government, he is generally assailed by his own constituents, and charged with every motive but a pure and honest one for the course he has taken. Either there is something in the sphere of office that corrupts everything within it, or great injustice has been done to nearly every popular politician who has ever accepted office. An unpopular man frequently becomes popular by becoming a Minister—as in the instance of Sir Robert Peel, and of many others; but there is scarcely an instance in which a popular man has not, by entering office, lost his popularity.

The moral sense of the judicial bench is a topic which every now and then presents itself to the attention in a rather disagreeable manner. Professional morality, which, unfortunately, does not stand very high, will stand even lower than it did before in the estimation of every one who reads thoughtfully a report of the trial of a clergyman at the recent assizes, for forging the entry of a marriage in the parish register. The offence was proved, and the unfortunate offender urged in mitigation the fact that "he had entered the Church, a vocation for which he was wholly unfit, in obedience to the wishes of his father." This was only admitting that he had been a hypocrite from his youth, and had undertaken a most sacred office with a weak and unworthy motive. In further extenuation he took occasion to insult literature, by saying that "a devotion to its pursuits had rendered him unfit for the common affairs of life" or, in other words, that his being a literary man is in some measure an excuse for his having committed a crime, and outraged the laws of honour and morality. Lord Campbell should have been the last person to throw a slur on that profession to which he owes the foundation of the position he now enjoys, but I cannot see how there is anything short of an insult to literature in the following passage from the sentence pronounced by his Lordship. He said, "The prisoner had flagrantly violated the law of the land, had violated truth in his letters, and had called on his female servant to state what he knew to be false." But he (Lord Campbell), nevertheless, went on to express a hope that the prisoner would yet "become an ornament to the literary world;" as if the literary world could possibly derive any embellishment from one who had been imprisoned for an offence, in which falsehood was a principal ingredient. If the culprit had been a barrister, would Lord Campbell, in committing him to prison, have expressed a hope that the convict would someday "do honour to the Bench," which he the judge at that moment occupied? What right, then, has he to presume that a condemned criminal may one day be accepted by the literary profession any more than such an adjunct would be hailed by the Bench or the Bar as one of its ornaments? It is possible that the respectable delinquent may not remain sufficiently long for contamination within a prison walls; for, if he follows the example of Mr. Carden, he will soon send for his physician, and, as confinement will very probably be prejudicial to his health, he may get a certificate to that effect; and, perhaps, like his respectable fellow-culprit, he may obtain a curtailment of his punishment. There may be no objection to this course; but surely the whole of the inmates of a gaol have an equal right to medical advice; and if there are any humbler culprits whose health may be equally prejudiced by incarceration, they surely have as much right as their betters—if those can be called their betters who are as bad as themselves—to be set at liberty. It is our boast that we have equal laws; but the source of congratulation is not complete, unless they are equally carried out. Equal justice is an excellent thing, but equal mercy is no less to be desired.

MM. Masquelier and Dupré of Saint-Maur, to whom a premium of 20,000*fr.* was lately awarded as an encouragement for their exertions in the cultivation of cotton in Algeria, have offered half that sum towards building a church in the commune of Saint-Denis du Sig, near Oran, where their plantations are situated.



PRINCIPAL SQUARE OF AREQUIPA, IN PERU.

THE REVOLUTION IN PERU.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE Republic of Peru has now been involved in a civil war for a whole year, and one of the most sanguinary scenes since its commencement has just been enacted in Arequipa, the second city of importance in the Republic. This city has generally taken a leading part in the many revolutions which periodically infest the country, and its occupation by the troops of either of the contending parties ensures the whole of the southern portion of the Republic.

The troops of the party opposed to the Government having been defeated at a city called Moquegua by the Government force, under General Moran, fell back upon Arequipa, and there intrenched themselves. The city, although not fortified, being built in regular squares of solid masonry can, by barricading the streets at the entrances, be turned into a pretty strong place of defence, as has just been seen. The Government forces, following up their advantage at Moquegua, attacked the city of Are-

quipa on the night of the 30th of November; and, after a severe struggle, which lasted until the following morning at eight o'clock, were repulsed. General Moran was made prisoner, and shot in the public square of the city within three hours of the victory.

Arequipa is situated among the Andes at the foot of a volcano, seventy-five English miles from the coast, in lat. 16.25 S., and long. 71.35 W., at the height of 7250 feet above the level of the sea, and contains, including some villages in its vicinity, 40,000 inhabitants. No wheeled vehicle exists in the town, all carriage being by beasts of burden, among which the llama is conspicuous. The accompanying sketch is of the principal square of the city.

The port of Islay is interesting, as being the only port in the world from which is exported the far-famed Alpaca wool; although a few bales annually may find their way to some of the other ports of the Republic for export. The alpaca is a semi-domesticated animal, only existing among the Andes; large flocks of which are owned by Indians, who shear the wool annually, and sell it. By a law of the Republic, no live alpaca is

allowed to be exported from the country, so that no competition may arise in the article of wool; and, as the animal is never seen near the coast, it is almost impossible to evade the law. Several vessels have come over from Australia to Peru, for the purpose of obtaining alpacas but have not succeeded in procuring a single animal.

There were a few specimens in the collection of the late Earl of Derby, which were purchased by Titus Salt, Esq., of Crow-nest, near Bradford the gentleman who introduced the wool as an article of manufacture, and which are now living in his park, and appear to be quite naturalised to this climate.

M. Duvernoy, member of the French Academy of Sciences and Professor at the Museum of Natural History, has just died, having nearly attained the age of eighty. He was the friend and collaborator of Cuvier, and was particularly distinguished for his co-operation in the great work of that celebrated man on "Comparative Anatomy," and at M. Cuvier's death succeeded to his chair at the Museum.



THE PORT OF ISLAY, IN PERU.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY ADAMS, C.B.

THIS distinguished officer died at Scutari, on the 19th December, 1854, in his fiftieth year, from wounds received at the battle of Inkerman. His constitution had been greatly impaired from his previous campaigns in China, where he commanded the 18th or Royal Irish, at Canton and elsewhere. He served in the Crimea as one of the Brigadier-Generals of the Second Division, commanded by Sir De Lacy Evans. He was the representative of an ancient



THE LATE MAJOR-GENERAL W. H. ADAMS, C.B.—FROM A FAMILY PORTRAIT.

family in Warwickshire, and his remains have been brought to England, and interred at Ansty, the family residence. He was the nephew of Mr. Serjeant Adams. He married his cousin Catharine Adams, who survives him; but leaving no issue, his estates devolve on his next brother, George Adams, Capt. R.N.

DESTRUCTION OF KELHAM-BRIDGE.

AMONG the devastations occasioned by the late frost, we have to record the destruction, last week, of Kelham-bridge, erected over the river Trent, about three miles from Newark, at a cost of £3000. The Bridge was constructed of wood, and supported by wrought-iron screw piles and girders, with stone abutments. The river at Kelham is very wide and deep, and the current exceedingly rapid. It appears that on the morning of the accident, fears were entertained respecting the safety of the Bridge, and, by desire of the deputy clerk of the peace, a surveyor and a staff of men went down to the river, and proceeded to break the ice around the Bridge, and clear it away. When they had succeeded in removing a greater part of it, an immense sheet of ice, several tons weight, was seen floating rapidly down the Trent; the men found it impossible to withstand the force, and in a short time it came in violent collision with the piles which supported the end of the Bridge near Kelham. Four of the piles were instantly snapped asunder, and half the Bridge fell into the river. Fortunately, no persons were injured, although several men had just crossed it. On Wednesday the remaining portion was knocked down by a large piece of ice driven against the piles, which instantly snapped them; so that the whole will have to be rebuilt.

The two sons of Burns have been promoted. William Nichol Burns is now a Colonel, and James Glencairn Burns a Lieutenant-Colonel.

LARCH IN THE GROUNDS OF KILLYMOON CASTLE, COUNTY TYRONE.

THIS estate has been for many generations the property and residence of the Stewarts of Killymoon, whose estate in the county of Tyrone at one time almost extended to a principality. They were amongst the first and most important of those adventurous families, who, driven from their native hills and islands of Scotland, by political feuds and animosities, crossed the stormy Channel, and formed a powerful Protestant confederacy in the north of Ireland. Colonel Stewart, the last proprietor, and almost the last representative of this distinguished family, died just at the time when it was decreed that the castle, demesne, and the last portion of the estate must pass through the melancholy ordeal of the Encumbered Estates Court. The castle was built by Nash, under his personal superintendence; and some idea may be formed of the lavish expense at which it was erected, when it is stated that the stone was imported for the purpose from Portland. It stands upon a slight eminence, just above the confluence of two rapid, sparkling rivers, such as anglers love, famed for the enormous trout which run up from Lough Neagh, and which are not unfrequently taken from ten to fifteen pounds each. The demesne containing, amongst other objects of interest, old Danish and Roman forts, and the ruins of the first Presbyterian church erected in Ireland, is justly the pride and pleasure of the North. The hanging banks are planted with hundreds of acres of laurels,



LARCH IN THE GROUNDS OF KILLYMOON CASTLE.

interspersed with the finest timber in the country. The drives and walks through the woods are many miles in extent, and are the daily resort in summer of most of the pleasure-seekers within the circuit of the adjoining counties—all classes of whom are liberally admitted by the present proprietor, J. Douglas Cooper, Esq.

The Larch in the accompanying Sketch, which stands upon the west

lawn, and whose trunk is about 16 feet in circumference, is interesting from the circumstance that it was brought by the father of the late Colonel Stewart, in a small flower-pot, from Italy, and is said to be the first Larch introduced into Ireland, the soil of which is so favourable to the growth of all the Conifera, as attested by the enormous stems of pines occasionally exhumed from the deep bogs, and which are of almost fabulous dimensions.

THE LATE REV. G. FLETCHER.

THE death of this venerable centenarian, in his 108th year, took place on the 2nd ult. His protracted length of days is marked by many



THE LATE REV. G. FLETCHER, AGED 104.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

noteworthy circumstances. Mr. Fletcher was born on Feb. 2, 1747, at Clarbrough, in Nottinghamshire. From six years of age he had been brought up in the tenets of Wesley, and remained a member of that body till his death. He spent eighty-three years of his life in active pursuits. He was twenty-one years a farmer; twenty-six years he served his Sovereign in the Army—was at the battle of Bunker's-hill, and followed Abercrombie into Egypt, where he gained the respect and esteem of his officers. He then entered the West India Dock Company's service, where he continued thirty-six years, when he retired on their bounty, still preserving, up to within six months of his decease, that astonishing activity of mind and body for which he was so remarkable: often travelling great distances by rail, and pursuing his holy calling, preaching two or three times a day, regardless of personal inconvenience, for the objects of charity and benevolence.

The accompanying Portrait of Mr. Fletcher was taken on his 104th birthday, four years since. He walked for this purpose from Poplar to Messrs. Beard's Photographic establishment, in King William-street, City; and after the sitting he walked back to Poplar—refusing to ride, although a conveyance was placed at his service.

PAPER FROM SHAVINGS.—Before us lies a copy of the *Albany Evening Journal* printed on paper made from basswood shavings. It is also of good substance—perhaps, if anything, a little too heavy, which can no doubt be easily remedied—and it is tougher than the great bulk of news paper made from rags.—*New York Tribune*.

COST OF CONVICTS.—The expense of keeping our convicts is increasing. Comparing 1854-5 with 1853-4, the victualling charge was £8 19s. per head, as compared with £7 1s. 10d. for 1853-4; clothing is estimated at £2 19s. 5d., as against £2 13s. 10d. for each prisoner; and clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners "on liberation," 15s. 3d. against 4s. 2d.



KELHAM BRIDGE, NEAR NEWARK, DESTROYED BY THE ICE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 11.—3rd Sunday in Lent. Benjamin West died, 1820.
 MONDAY, 12.—St. Gregory. Chelsea Hospital founded, 1682.
 TUESDAY, 13.—Earl Grey born, 1764. Dr. Priestley born, 1738.
 WEDNESDAY, 14.—Klopstock died, 1803.
 THURSDAY, 15.—New London Bridge commenced, 1824.
 FRIDAY, 16.—Battle of Culloden, 1746.
 SATURDAY, 17.—St. Patrick.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 17.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
6 20	6 52	7 17	7 47	8 28	9 10	10 5
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Newspaper Stamps.

FROM a Return just presented to Parliament of Penny Stamps issued to the various Newspapers during the year 1854, it appears that the

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

made use of **5,627,866,**

being an average of upwards of ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT THOUSAND COPIES each publication.

The *Times* is returned as using 15,975,739 for the same period, or Fifty-One Thousand each publication—being a circulation less than *one-half* of that of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Since the commencement of the year 1855 the weekly sale of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS has been upwards of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY THOUSAND COPIES.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1855.

A PORTION of the press and a very large portion of the public seem to be agreed that the system of promotion by purchase in the Army should be abolished; and that in the military, as in other professions, merit alone should be the road to success and to distinction. There can be no doubt that the principle is just. The theory is perfect, and defies all hostile attempt to propound or construct a better. But is the British public prepared to carry it out? Has it fully considered the subject in all its ramifications? and would the system, if established, conduce to the satisfaction of the people, or to the welfare of the country? Before we are led away by theory—however noble and unexceptionable it seem—it is well to look at existing facts. Certainly merit ought to be rewarded. Certainly the common soldier ought to have it in his power to carve his way to the highest ranks of the Army. Such illustrious soldiers as Bernadotte and Murat began at the very beginning, and reached the ultimate goal—a throne; but is this the prize to be offered up to the ambition of the common soldier in peaceful times and in a peaceful country? In war—which is an exceptional time—it is right as well as expedient to elicit the best services of the best men in the military career; but how would the system of promotion by merit work in times of peace? That is in reality the question for the British public to answer before they consent to republicanise the military service. The Continental nations have large standing armies. Great Britain has not; and we think it would be a most unfortunate thing for this country, if it were ever compelled to tolerate the infliction of such armed legions as are maintained by the military States of the Continent for the defence of their territory. Our frontiers have other and better guardians. The seas that mark our boundaries prescribe the nature of our defences. Our sailors and ships perform the duties which fall to the lot of the standing armies of such countries as France, Austria, and Prussia. In peace or in war, our naval force ought to be maintained at the highest point of efficiency; and so essential has it been found to our security, that no one has ever dreamed of introducing into that service the system of promotion by purchase. But in the Army the case is different. We do not on ordinary occasions need a large army. We trust we never shall. We are a brave people—but we are not a military nation in the sense in which the term is generally understood. We are strictly and essentially a naval power. The sea is our element. It is the source of our wealth and of our greatness; and the military service—noble as it is, and all important as it may sometimes become—is for the most part but secondary to our maritime force. And if inducement is to be held out to the democracy of Great Britain—not only to the artisan and to the brave peasant, but to the far-seeing, enterprising, pushing, vigorous youth of the middle classes—to enter the military profession and aspire to its highest prizes, we must make the prizes of some value. If a brave soldier is promoted from the ranks, he requires more money than his pay, if he would mingle on fair terms with his new companions. Is the country prepared to double or treble the pay of the subaltern and superior officers of the Army? And if prepared in time of war to do so, will it be equally ready and willing in times of peace? And if equally ready and willing, would such a policy be wise? And would it not, as an inevitable consequence, lead to the establishment of that which England has always hated and protested against—a large standing army?

We do not pretend to answer these questions. We only throw them out as suggestions for those who are captivated by a fine, compact, and apparently unexceptionable theory. If the pay of a Cardigan, a De Lacy Evans, or a Colin Campbell were thrice or ten times as great as it is, we think it impossible that these truly noble men would have proved in the slightest degree more chivalrous and heroic; or if every soldier who fought at the Alma or at Inkerman knew that he had a chance of becoming a Field Marshal, we doubt whether he would have fought a whit more gallantly and stubbornly than he did on those ever-memorable days. The British Army has often earned the eternal gratitude of the British people, and officers who have bought their commissions, and soldiers who have had no greater prize in view than promotion to the rank of Sergeant-Major, or a home in Chelsea Hospital, have fought as well as Bernadotte or Murat. With all our admiration for the Army, and its gallant deeds, we must confess that we

should not like it to become in times of peace a profession and an institution sufficiently lucrative to tempt men from the professions of law, literature, medicine, or commerce. Such an army would, we think, be dangerous to the public liberty. At all events the subject is one that requires earnest and careful consideration, or we may run ourselves into Republicanism, and emerge from it into a Military Despotism, before we know what we are about.

MR. ROEBUCK'S Committee on the state of the Army before Sebastopol is now sitting *de die in diem*. The Committee itself will have an historical fame, entirely apart from any of the good which sanguine people expect it to produce. It will be remembered as the tribunal whose establishment cost two Governments. As some Oriental nations had a custom, before planting a throne for their King, to throw sacrifices into the hole dug for the foundation, Mr. Roebuck has immolated two sets of Ministers as a foundation for the chairs of his Committee of Public Safety. We hope—doubtfully, however—that the results may be worthy of the preliminaries.

The Committee sustained a defeat in its attempt to make the inquiry private and confidential. Its appeal to the House for authority to sit in secret was unceremoniously rejected. Sir James Graham—who, for reasons of his own, seems to have a wholesome dread of the interference of the press—fairly told the House that secrecy would be impossible, and that the journals *would* have reports, and he hinted that a collision between the Third and Fourth Estates of the realm was a thing not to be risked unnecessarily. Now this was one way of putting the matter. There is not the least doubt that the leading journals would have obtained reports, and would have risked Parliamentary wrath by publishing them. But the leading journals would have done so in no spirit of arrogant independence, or vulgar desire to fly in the face of constitutional authority, but because the nation which demanded the inquiry would not have borne to be mocked by that inquiry being secret. The press does but represent the national feeling, as the House of Commons affects to do; and the decision of the latter upon this very question shows that the House understood the popular wish as well as the press did. Sir James Graham, therefore, might as well have said that the people *would* have reports. However, it comes much to the same thing.

While we are speaking of the House of Commons as a representative of the feelings of the people, we will just allude to an observation which dropped from Mr. Gladstone, when reasserting his conviction that the Committee was a mistake. He said that he believed, if the votes of the House could be taken by ballot, that the Committee would have been “thrown over,” after the motion had disposed of the preceding Government. The great admiration in which Mr. Gladstone's talents and character are held gives to an observation of this kind no ordinary significance. He certainly uttered what, at the mildest, was a stinging satire. Did he mean to say that the Commons of England merely voted for the inquiry out of fear of their constituents; and would have voted the other way, could they have done so in the safety of secrecy? The accomplished member for Oxford has more than once rebuked young senators for giving utterance to that conventional depreciation of the value of Parliamentary discussions which is learned “out of doors,” but which a member decorously forgets after his maiden session. But no flippant or self-complacent ornament of a debating society ever said anything so severe of the House of Commons as was said upon this occasion by the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Committee has already examined Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. G. Dundas, General Bentinck, Captain Wrottesley, and Mr. Owen (the only surviving officer of the wrecked *Resolute*), and other gentlemen. Its managers have not begun in Ciceronian order—“*Primum mihi videtur de genere Belli, deinde de magnitudine, tum de imperatore deligendo esse dicendum*,” though that Manilian trial might furnish some of our orators of the Phillimore school with an excellent theme. It has plunged at once into questions of littered hay, scattered boards, bad drainage, cumbrous medicine chests, ruined horses, green coffee, and incapable harbour-masters. Mr. Layard is bringing to bear upon the witnesses the knowledge which he acquired when with the army; and his previous acquaintance with the habits and resources of the East enables him to direct his examinations to the points upon which he especially desires to accumulate damaging testimony. But so far as we have yet seen, the witnesses tell no more than our own Correspondents and those of the other journals have told us. We hear now, as we have previously read, of sufferings and privations, of want of organisation and order, of officials either helplessly or actively in the way; and we have one pervading impression of a peaceful nation suddenly set to make war, and decidedly making it badly. Those who expected startling details will be disappointed; the details are mournful rather than startling, but they are not novel. Those who expect any immediate benefit from the inquiry will be equally disappointed; but, inasmuch as the record and publication of truth must always produce good, sooner or later, advantage may arise, both from special details elicited by the Committee, and from certain general considerations and results which thinking men will deduce from a digest of the whole mass. The work of improvement before Sebastopol will be entirely distinct from anything that is done in No. 17 Committee-room, and the conviction that this will be so is the less disconcerting, seeing that such improvement is already going on. We learn, from the latest letters, that the trenches are dry, the men get all they want, provisions are plentiful, hay has arrived, fresh vegetables have been sent to the front, the railway is progressing rapidly, and Balaclava has been cleansed and rendered wholesome. This sounds more cheerfully than anything which has been connected with the name of the Crimea for many and many a day. We trust such reports may continue to arrive and balance those from No. 17.

HALIFAX ELECTION.—The vacancy created in the representation of the borough of Halifax, in consequence of Sir Charles Wood's acceptance of the post of First Lord of the Admiralty in the reconstructed Government, was duly filled up on Saturday last by the re-election of the right hon. Baronet without opposition. There had indeed been some talk, when the intelligence first arrived that the vacancy had arisen, of Major Edwards, who figured as a candidate at previous elections for the borough, being again started to contest the seat with Sir Charles, but subsequently the friends of the gallant Major met and resolved that it was inexpedient for him, in the present critical aspect of affairs, to press his claims on the suffrages of the constituency; and all idea of offering opposition to the right hon. Baronet's return was therefore abandoned.

ETIQUETTE OF COURT MOURNING.

THE sudden death of the Emperor of Russia, the intelligence of which was so rapidly conveyed by the telegraph recently established, has not yet been officially notified in the ordinary manner to the Western Courts; and we have heard in some quarters doubts expressed whether, under the circumstances—those Courts being at war with Russia—any intimation of the kind will be sent to them; and, as a consequence, whether any official notice will be taken by them of the event. Referring to past precedents, we think we are justified in anticipating that this important event will be notified by the Court of Russia to those of Great Britain and France, in the same way as if no war existed, and that the usual complimentary mourning will be ordered to be worn at the latter Courts.

The principle of international law is, that all the crowned heads of Christian Europe constitute amongst themselves one family; and this theory is further strengthened in fact by numberless marriages and intermarriages between the Royal houses, which scarcely leave it possible for one to lose a member without all losing a kinsman or close connection. Another principle of public law, sanctioning and sanctifying what is due to the natural ties of relationship, is that Kings are never supposed to be personally at enmity. The amicable relations between them are never interrupted; the fairest motives are attributed to them, personally, in all their actions; and the courtesies incidental to such relative conditions subsist, as occasion requires, under all circumstances. War itself only affects States, without in the slightest degree affecting the sentiments of personal regard between Sovereigns.

Amongst the civilities *en rigle* in the family of Sovereigns is the custom of notifying to one another the events of importance, whether sorrowful or agreeable, which occur to themselves or their respective families; such as deaths, marriages, and births, and even the probability of such approaching addition to the family. These notifications are made in writing by a Minister either ordinary or extraordinary; and the Court to which they are delivered returns a complimentary message in the same manner; and, in the case of death, testifies its sympathy in the event by putting on mourning. Amongst the instances of these courtesies being continued, even in a time of war, Martens (“*Esprit du Droit des Gens*”) refers to the following:—“At the moment of the rupture of the negotiations for peace which had been commenced between England and France, the English King (George III.) caused his marriage to be notified to the King of France, and the latter, in reply, expressed his lively congratulation upon the auspicious occurrence. On the same principle, Louis XIV. put on mourning for the Emperor Leopold and for Joseph I., who died in the midst of the war between the two States; and Charles VI., being still at war with the French Monarch, held solemn obsequies in his memory at his decease.”

THE COURT.

The Queen commenced the courtly receptions of the present season with a Levee on Wednesday last. Her Majesty, who was remarked to be looking exceedingly well, went through the fatigues inseparable from the ceremonial with her accustomed grace and dignity.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, with the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Monday the Earl of Clarendon had an audience of the Queen on his return from Boulogne, where the noble Earl had been on a mission to the Emperor Louis Napoleon. The Prince Consort and Prince Ernest of Leiningen visited the Crystal Palace in the course of the morning.

On Tuesday Prince Ernest of Leiningen left Buckingham Palace—where his Serene Highness had been staying with the Duchess of Kent, on a visit to her Majesty—for Portsmouth. Prince Nicholas of Nassau visited the Duchess of Kent at Portsmouth Palace during the day. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday her Majesty held her first Levee of the season; and in the evening dined with the Duke of Cambridge, at St. James's Palace.

The Hon. Lucy Kerr and the Hon. Mary Buteau have succeeded the Hon. Matilda Paget and the Hon. Mary Seymour in their duties as the Maids of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held her first Levee this season on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort arrived from Buckingham Palace, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, and escorted by a detachment of Life Guards.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince Nicholas of Nassau, and the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, were present.

Her Majesty wore a train of white poplin, embroidered with a running pattern of flowers in gold, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon to correspond. The Queen wore a diadem composed of emeralds and diamonds.

The Foreign Ministers were first introduced, and afterwards the general circle. The following were among the more noticeable presentations:—

Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, on appointment to be Inspecting-General of Cavalry, by General Viscount Hardinge.

Rear-Admiral Hon. Richard S. Dundas, on appointment to be Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships on a particular service, by Sir James Graham.

Major-General Henry Bentinck, on promotion, return from foreign service and appointment to the 58th Regiment.

Lord Mestyn, on succeeding to his title, by the Earl of Zetland.

The Lord Mayor, by Viscount Palmerston.

Bishop of Mauritius, on his appointment, by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lieutenant-Colonel Deedes, M.P., East Kent Mounted Rifles, on promotion, and on the regiment being made a Rifle corps, by Earl Cowper.

The Duchess of Leinster is lying in a very precarious state at Carton.

The Earl and Countess of Clarendon gave a dinner on Monday evening, at their mansion, in Grosvenor-crescent, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and a distinguished party.

The Earl of Carlisle will leave London for Ireland in the course of the ensuing week, in order to enter upon the duties of the Viceroyal Government.

NORTHAMPTON ELECTION.—Mr. Vernon Smith was returned for Northampton on Monday. Mr. Lockhart was also proposed, and had the show of hands in his favour but declined going to the poll. In the course of Mr. Vernon Smith's address, he detailed the circumstances under which he assumed office at Lord Palmerston's request. “He was not,” he said, “so vain as not to be aware that he should not have been asked to accept office if they could have got anybody else. He made no secret of saying that he was the last man asked.” Referring to his vote on Mr. Roebuck's motion, the right hon. gentleman said “he had opposed the appointment of a Committee, although strongly in favour of inquiry, because he was satisfied that a Committee of the House of Commons was not the best agency for accomplishing the object. With regard to the war, he told them in his address that with the origin of the war he had nothing to do. He was not in office at the time, and therefore was not responsible for the conduct of the Government. He might say, however, that as Parliament and the Government were at present constituted, it was a most difficult matter to ascertain whether the Government was going to war or to interfere with diplomatic relations. No matter at what stage of proceedings a member asked questions, the invariable reply was ‘Hush, hush, hush.’ He was told at one time to be quiet, lest his question might lead to war; on another, lest it might embarrass negotiations, and so on. To a great extent he admitted that for a representative Government to carry on war was a difficult task. Representative government, however, was now upon its trial; and it was for the country to show that it was, at the same time, able to maintain its free institutions and to wage successful war.”

STIRLING ELECTION.—On Monday last Mr. Peter Blackburn, of Killearn, was elected, without opposition, to represent the county of Stirling in Parliament, in the room of the late Mr. Forbes, of Callander. The hon. member said that he would give Lord Palmerston his support and a fair trial, believing that all parties should sink all minor differences, and give an honest and hearty support to those who would most energetically carry on the war.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—Dowager Lady Cooper, of Portland-place and Isleworth house, has left £100,000 in personality, and £200,000 real estates. Thomas Kinnersley, Esq., of Clough-hall, Newcastle, £200,000. General George Carpenter, H.E.I.C., £160,000. Richard Edmonds, Esq., Newcross, £70,000. James Salter, Esq., of Heavitree, £40,000. Sir George Wombwell, Bart., of Newburgh-park and Wombwell, Yorkshire, and of Kensington-gore, London, £30,000 within the province of Canterbury. Mr. W. Simpson, of Southam, Warwickshire, has been somewhat peculiar in his bequests, leaving to each bearer of his corpse ten shillings, and directing five guineas to be expended in bread and distributed among the poor of his parish on the Sunday after his decease; and two guineas among the ringers and singers. On the decease or second marriage of his widow he leaves his property to charitable uses.

THE BATTLE AT EUPATORIA.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM FIELD-MARSHAL LORD RAGLAN.

(From a Supplement to Tuesday's Gazette.)

War Department, March 8.

Lord Panmure has this day received despatches and enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and to his Lordship, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 20.

My Lord Duke,—Your Grace will have learnt, by my telegraphic despatch of the 18th inst., that the enemy had, on the previous morning, at daylight, attacked Eupatoria with a very large force, and a powerful body of artillery, and had been repulsed, after an engagement which terminated with their retirement at 10 a.m.

I have now the honour to lay before your Grace copies of two letters which I have received from Colonel Simmons, who is attached to the head-quarters of Omer Pacha, containing the details of the action; and, whilst your Grace will rejoice to see that the Turkish troops which have been landed at Eupatoria have availed themselves of the earliest opportunity to show that the character they acquired on the Danube was well merited and remained unimpaired, you will join in the regret which I feel that they have suffered so considerable a loss, and that among the killed is numbered the General of Division, Selim Pacha (an Egyptian), and among the wounded a General of Brigade (also an Egyptian). This loss, however, and particularly that sustained by a battery of artillery, afford ample proof of the gallant and determined conduct of the troops, and of the serious nature of the attack made upon them, as well as their being worthy of their illustrious chief.

I have great satisfaction in drawing your Grace's attention to that part of Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons' despatch, in which he bears testimony to the efficient assistance rendered to the Ottoman army by her Majesty's ships in the bay, under the command of the Honourable Captain Hastings, of the *Curacoa*.—I have, &c.,

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

Eupatoria, Feb. 17, 1855, 1 p.m.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 15th instant, several large convoys and arrivals of troops were seen moving along the north shore of the Sasik Putrid Lake, from the eastward.

This movement on the part of the enemy caused Omer Pacha to place the garrison on the alert. No further movement, however, was seen yesterday on the part of the enemy; but this morning, at daylight, they advanced in great force, and opened with artillery upon the intrenchments which enclose the town. The advanced line of works, which I informed your Lordship it was his Highness's intention to erect, were not yet commenced.

The enemy's artillery opened their fire about 1200 yards from the place, covered by skirmishers, and supported by heavy masses of infantry in their rear, and cavalry on their flanks. The artillery subsequently took up a second position more in advance, about 400 yards from a small crown-work which is being erected in front of the mills to the north-east of the town, and after continuing their fire for some time, the infantry advanced to the attack, having formed under the cover of a wall about 600 yards from the right of the town. They were repulsed at this point, leaving from 150 to 200 dead on the field. On other points of the field a number of horses were left dead, but the killed men were removed. At length, about ten a.m., the whole force retired, covered by the artillery and cavalry.

I am not able as yet to ascertain the number of men engaged, but I should think there were not less than 40,000 of all arms, with a very powerful artillery. As many as sixty of the enemy's guns must have been firing at one time, amongst them some 32-pounders. Prisoners report that they were accompanied by 100 guns. As yet, all the particulars I have been able positively to ascertain is, that Liprandi's division (the 12th) was present.

At present I understand that they are in position about five miles north from this, their left leaning on the Sasik Putrid Lake.

It is with much pleasure I have to inform your Lordship that the portion of her Majesty's fleet under the Hon. Captain Hastings, have rendered most efficient assistance. The *Valorous* threw some well-directed shells, and completely covered our left; whilst the *Viper* gun-boat, which was at first stationed on the left, with the *Valorous*, by Captain Hastings' directions, moved, and took up a flanking position on the right, near the mills.

I cannot at present give your Lordship any details of the killed and wounded on the side of the Turks; I regret to say, however, that Selim Pacha, commanding the Egyptian Brigade, is amongst the former. One battery of Turkish Artillery is completely disabled, every gun having been struck, and a great number (nearly one-third) of the horses killed.

I am desirous your Lordship should receive a report of the action, with as little delay as possible, by the *Queen of the South*; so I must beg your Lordship to excuse further details, which shall be sent by a future occasion.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN SIMMONS, Captain Royal Engineers, Brevet-Major.

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

P.S. A prisoner informs us that a Prince commanded, but he could not remember his name.

I am happy to say that there are no casualties among the English or French officers. Two French sous-officers are among the killed, and two privates wounded. (Signed) J. S.

Eupatoria, Feb. 18, six p.m.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that nothing of importance has taken place here since the enemy retired yesterday.

Owing to the deficiency of cavalry with the army of his Highness Omer Pacha, we are not able to obtain exact information as to the position of the enemy, who have entirely disappeared, so far as we can see, with the exception of the usual cavalry advanced posts.

Convoys of waggons, however, have been seen from the fleet moving along the north shore of the Sasik Putrid Lake from the eastward. I am inclined, however, to believe that they are bringing forage and provisions for the cavalry which surround us.

In the meantime, however, his Highness is taking every precaution, by adding to the defences of the place, to provide against any further attempts of the enemy. Fortunately the two transports (sailing), containing artillery and materials for constructing works have arrived, and, in the course of the night we shall have twelve or fourteen more guns in position than yesterday. The parapets also have been raised, so that we may hope that our loss will not be so heavy on a future occasion.

The total loss yesterday amounted to as follows, of all ranks:—Turks, 97 killed; 277 wounded. French, 4 killed; 9 wounded. Total combatants, 101 killed; 286 wounded. Tartar population, 13 killed; 11 wounded. Horses of the Turkish army, 79 killed; 18 wounded.

Amongst the killed of the Turks were—1 General of Division, Selim Pacha (Egyptian); 1 Colonel, and 5 subaltern officers; and amongst the wounded—1 General of Brigade (Egyptian); 4 superior, and 5 subaltern officers. Amongst the French wounded was an officer of the *Henri IV.*, who was serving ashore in a land battery.

A greater portion of the horses of one battery were killed, and nineteen men of the same battery, the whole of the guns being disabled.

I have not been able to obtain any further positive details of the enemy's force.—I am, &c., (Signed) JOHN SIMMONS, Capt., Royal Engineers, Brevet-Major.

Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 24, 1855.

My Lord,—The weather has improved since I wrote my despatch of the 20th instant.

The snow is still on the ground, and the nights are cold; but the wind has subsided, and we have to day a bright sunshine.

Considerable activity continues to prevail in the movement of the enemy's troops on the north side of the harbour, and convoys of waggons are constantly arriving, and the object of the Russians would appear to be to fortify the heights extending to their left, and looking upon the valley of the Tchernaya.

The troops of the garrison having lodged themselves on the point of the spur of the ridge from Inkerman over the Careening Bay, at about 300 yards from the new French parallel, on the extreme right, General Canrobert determined to dislodge them; and this was gallantly effected at two o'clock this morning by 1500 men, under the immediate command of General Monet, and the direction of General Mayrac, with, however, I regret to say, some loss, the consequence of the heavy fire which was brought to bear upon them from the enemy's batteries and the shipping whilst they were engaged in demolishing the works. When this object was accomplished they withdrew to the trenches, as had been their intention.

The gallant General Monet is, I am much concerned to have to add, among the wounded.

I enclose a return of casualties to the 22nd instant.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown has, I am happy to say, resumed the command of the Light Division in perfect health. The railway is getting on remarkably well, and the exertions of Mr. Beattie, who is superintending the work, are unremitting, and entitle him to great praise.—I have, &c.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

RAGLAN.

(Translation.)

Head-quarters, Eupatoria, February, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the enemy attacked Eupatoria on the morning of the 17th instant.

The troops intended for this attack had left the camp before Sebastopol six

days ago, and other troops from Perekop and Simpheropol had joined them in the night of the 16th, and the morning of the 17th, in the flat ground that lies behind the heights that are before Eupatoria.

As far as one could guess, and according to the information furnished by prisoners, the enemy mustered thirty-six battalions of infantry, six regiments of cavalry, four hundred Cossacks, eighty pieces of artillery in position, and some troops of horse-artillery, which were in reserve.

The attack commenced at daylight by a strong cannonade, during which the enemy used even 32-pounders. At first the Russians showed themselves in great force along our whole position; but, seeing that our left was protected by men-of-war, which went there when the first shot was fired, they concentrated against our centre and right.

I then requested the senior officer of the English Royal Navy to send the gun-boat *Viper* to the right, and to take up a position near the French steamer *Veloce*, and the Turkish steamer *Scheffauer*, on board of which was the Vice-Admiral, Ahmed Pacha. At the same time I reinforced the right with some battalions of infantry and some pieces of artillery, which I withdrew from the left.

The enemy continued his fire, without ceasing, from the position held by his artillery, supported by a powerful fire of skirmishers, and then his infantry, carrying planks and ladders, three times tried to storm the works. Each time it was repulsed, and obliged to retire under our fire, but it was enabled to effect this retrograde movement under cover of its artillery, and of heavy masses of cavalry.

Our cavalry, which at the present moment only musters about 200 or 300 horses, and which charged the Russian infantry at the commencement of its retreat, did not dare to pursue it in the face of such heavy masses.

Their superiority in artillery and cavalry prevented our disturbing the Russians on their retreat. After four hours and a half fighting, they commenced retiring in three different directions, towards the bridge of Lake Sasik, towards Top Mamal, and towards the Perekop road.

I have every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of my troops during the day. Although behind works only half finished, and not fully armed, they showed a bold front and were very steady.

Our losses are not very numerous, but they are to be deplored. We regret the death of Selim Pacha, Lieut.-General, commanding the Egyptian troops. We had, moreover, 87 killed, 277 wounded; 79 horses killed, and 18 wounded.

Amongst the killed there are seven officers, and ten wounded, amongst them Suleiman Pacha; thirteen inhabitants of the town have been killed, and eleven wounded.

I consider it my duty to make honourable mention of the French detachment that is here, and of the English men-of-war, *Curacoa*, *Furious*, *Valorous*, *Viper*, of the Turkish steamer *Scheffauer*, and of the energetic co-operation of the French steamer *Veloce*, who all contributed greatly towards frustrating the efforts of the enemy. The French detachment had 4 men killed and 9 wounded—amongst the latter is a naval officer.

The Russians must have suffered a heavy loss. According to the report of the civil authorities of the town, who had to bury the dead, their number of killed amounts to 453; their artillery lost 300 horses. They carried away a great many of their dead, and almost all their wounded. We have taken 7 prisoners.—I have, &c., (Signed) OMER.

His Excellency the Lord Raglan, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 17TH TO THE 22ND FEBRUARY, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

		KILLED.	WOUNDED.
77th Foot.—Private Wm. James Brown,			
38th Foot.—Lieut. Constantine S. Gaynor, severely.			
17th Foot.—Privates Michael Begley and Peter Muddleston, severely.			
41st Foot.—Private Patrick Burke, severely.			
47th Foot.—Private Philip Clarke, slightly.			
4th Foot.—Private Daniel Smith, slightly.			
90th Foot.—Private John Hardill, severely (since dead).			
	J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.		

TEMPERATURE AT THE SEAT OF WAR.

Date.	Place.	Temperature.	Wind.	Remarks.
1855.	On the Black Sea.	Fahrenheit.		
Feb. 15th, Off Balacava,	62°	Southerly.		Blowing half a gale.
Feb. 16th, Off Cape Chersonese,	56°	South-East.		Fine.
Feb. 17th, Off Balacava,	46°	North-East.		Snow.
Feb. 18th, Ditto,	48°	Ditto.		Frost during the night.
Feb. 19th, Ditto,	52°	South-East.		Fine.
Balacava.			CHAS. RICKETTS, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon.	

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

PHILIP-HENRY, FOURTH EARL STANHOPE, F.R.S. AND F.S.A.

THE death of this nobleman took place at his seat, Cheverning, near Sevenoaks, on the 2nd inst. His Lordship was born 7th Dec. 1781, the eldest son of Charles, third Earl Stanhope (so distinguished for his mechanical genius and scientific researches), by Louisa, his second wife, daughter and heiress of the Hon. Henry Grenville, Governor of Barbadoes. He married, 19th Nov., 1803, Catherine-Lucy, daughter of Robert, Lord Carrington; and by her (who died 1st Oct., 1843) had issue—one surviving son, Philip-Henry, now third Earl Stanhope (the well-known historian, under his courtesy title of Viscount Mahon); and one daughter, Catherine-Lucy-Wilhelmina, married, first, in 1843, to Lord Dalmeny, and secondly, in 1854, to Lord Harry-George Vane.

The first peer of this branch of the noble house of Stanhope was James Stanhope, grandson of Philip, first Earl of Chesterfield. He was a distinguished Commander, of the reign of Queen Anne, served with great gallantry in Spain, and gained considerable renown by the reduction of Port Mahon in the island of Minorca. In the reign of George I. he became Secretary of State and First Lord of the Treasury, and was advanced to the Barony and Earldom of Stanhope. The celebrated Lady Hester Stanhope (who died in Syria 23rd June, 1839) was half sister of the nobleman whose death we record—having been daughter of the third Earl Stanhope by his first wife, Lady Hester Pitt, daughter of William, first Earl of Chatham.

LORD DECIES.

THE Rev. John de-la-Poer Horsley Beresford, second Baron Decies, of the county of Waterford, in the Peerage of Ireland, was the eldest son of the Most Rev. William Beresford, Archbishop of Tuam and first Baron Decies, by his wife, Elizabeth, second daughter of John Fitzgibbon, Esq., and niece of the Earl of Clare, Lord Chancellor of Ireland. The second Baron Decies, the subject of this notice, was born 20th Jan., 1777, and succeeded his father, the Archbishop, on the 6th September, 1819. He married, the 26th July, 1810, Charlotte-Philadelphia, only daughter of the late Robert Horsley, Esq., of Balum House, Northumberland, and assumed in consequence the additional surname of Horsley. By this lady (who died the 9th of March, 1852) he leaves issue—three daughters and a son, William Robert John, who succeeds as third Lord Decies; the three daughters are Mrs. Henry Edwards Brown, Lady Ernest Bruce, and the Duchess of Montrose. The second Baron Decies died on the 1st inst. He and his two brothers, the three sons of the Archbishop, were all in Holy Orders of the Church of England.



SIR JOHN MORRIS, BART.

SIR JOHN MORRIS, second Baronet of Claremont, Glamorganshire, was the elder son of Sir John Morris, the first Baronet, by his wife, Henrietta, daughter of Sir Philip Musgrave, Bart., of Eden-hall. He was born the 14th July, 1775, and married, the 5th October, 1809, Lucy Juliana, youngest daughter of the fifth Earl of Torrington, by whom he leaves four sons and five daughters. The eldest son, John Armine, is now the third Baronet; three of the daughters are married—viz., Mrs. Albert Jenner, of Wenvae Castle, Glamorganshire; Mrs. Hyde Leaver, and Mrs. Livingstone. Sir John, who succeeded his father as second Baronet, the 25th June, 1819, died on the 24th ult., at Southsea-house, Hants.



DR. FARRELL.

CHARLES FARRELL, Esq., M.D., who died on the 15th January at Dalyston, county Galway, held a high position as a physician. He entered the Army in the Medical Department in 1799; and served many years in the Mediterranean, Egypt, and the Peninsula, as Physician; and in Ceylon as Deputy Inspector-General and as Inspector-General of Hospitals. He further held in Ceylon a high civil appointment. He was also several years Inspector-General at Gibraltar.

Dr. Farrell, after a long and meritorious career, quitted professional life, and retired to his native country, to enjoy there the possession of a fine property at Dalyston, county Galway, and to become an enterprising agriculturist and an active magistrate.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Jews are standing aghast at the heavy prices given by noblemen, gentlemen, and Jew dealers themselves, for the choicer acquisitions at the Bernal sale. War seems to have had no effect upon the pockets of those present; and even the news of the fall of Sebastopol could hardly send some of the lots to higher prices. We are glad to observe that a young English nobleman, the Marquis of Bath, is among the spirited bidders for the better things, and that he has already secured more than one lot, of equal beauty and rarity—

Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore—

for the stately Longleat.

Antiquaries and artists are waging a very idle and, therefore, unnecessary war about the purchase for the nation of two well-known collections of curiosities. "Buy the Roach Smith Collection of London Antiquities," exclaims the antiquary and F.S.A.; "Buy the Bernal Collection of Mediaeval Art," exclaims not less loudly the painter and R.A. Both advocates have strong claims to be heard; but why, let us ask, do they quarrel with one another? Why does counsel for the Roach Smith Museum disparage the Bernal Collection? Why does *silk* for Bernal discredit the importance of the Roach Smith Museum? We have long been intimate with both collections, and can see much, very much indeed, to admire in both. That the trustees of the British Museum should secure Mr. Smith's Collection was our conviction the moment we heard that he was willing to part with it; and surely we felt that Government would be very remiss if it failed to obtain for the people all that was good in the Bernal sale. The antiquary who contends for Mr. Smith contrasts triumphantly three thousand pounds (Mr. Smith's price for his Museum) with the fifty thousand pounds required to obtain the Bernal Collection; but neither price (they are appraiser's prices) seems too large. Mr. Smith's Collection contains much that is very curious, and much (better still) that is curiously illustrative of London. No one has ever seen it without carrying away from it, not a coin or a curiosity, but some fresh certainty, from seeing it, of what London must have been like, and how our forefathers dressed who had sons to send to Crecy and Agincourt. "It would be ten thousand pities," says our F.S.A. friend, "that Mr. Smith's Museum should be lost to the nation." To which we would reply—"That securing it, my learned F.S.A., would be three thousand pounds well spent."

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor—we are not, we believe, betraying a secret—gave a most admirable dinner last Saturday to his fellow members of the Garrick Club, and to a few other men of mark and fame that he thought (not untruly) would be glad to meet one another. There was a thick gathering of authors, artists, actors, M.P.'s, barristers, and of gentlemen at large. His Lordship looked and did his best. No £5000 profit on a plate after Landseer or Roberts could have given him, it was clear, so much satisfaction as the result of the £500 he was spending on the intelligent and merry lips before him. Lord Tenterden replied for the Club (he is its Vice-President) in a way that suggested a regret that he does not favour the House of Lords with his practical good sense and earnest eloquence. Lord Carlisle spoke for his relative, the noble President (his Grace of Devonshire), and Mr. Thackeray replied for authors generally in a way (a little sarcasm excepted) that gave more than satisfaction to his many admirers. Mr. Buckstone acknowledged the honour his Lordship had been pleased to pay to actors, and Mr. David Roberts the honour he had conferred on artists. There was but one omission, it is said—the Messrs. Staples should have been thanked for the excellence for their cookery and the choice character of their wines.

The death of Earl Stanhope has carried a well-known and able author into the House of Peers. Lord Mahon, the historian of England under the House of Hanover, is, by his father's death, Earl Stanhope. Those who know him best assure us that the dignity he has succeeded to will not lessen his love of letters, or his desire to appear once more as a faithful and able historian.

We have been touched by an anecdote (recently related in the House by Mr. Lowe) of the growing love for books which is now distinguishing not only our manufacturing towns, but our agricultural districts as well. Mr. Lowe is one of the members for Kidderminster—a town, he tells us, at the present moment not very flourishing in its manufactures, and unwilling, it was thought, to contribute to the formation of a free library of its own. When the proposition for the levying of a halfpenny rate for a free library was publicly announced at Kidderminster, cards were issued calling upon the people not to throw away their money, or to tax themselves at a moment when so many of the inhabitants were without work. The appeal was fruitless, and the original proposition was carried, as Mr. Lowe tells us, by a large majority:—"Only about twenty persons voted against a free library; and those persons (he said it with every respect) were persons whose calling in life pointed to the supposition that they thought there was a better way of spending an evening than in reading-rooms and libraries."

Another letter, and one to the point, on the subject of "Moreduin," deserves insertion. Here it is:—

52, Upper Norton-street, March 6th, 1855.

It is not my intention to take part in the controversy whether or not Sir Walter Scott wrote the romance of "Moreduin." I merely wish to make a passing remark on the assertion that Scott never used initials in signing his letters, made by Mr. Huntly Gordon and Mr. Shene.

I have in my collection eighteen letters of Sir Walter's; some are signed "W. Scott," others "Walter Scott," and one "W. S." This may be an isolated fact, a single exception, but so it is.

Mr. Gordon also says that Scott, in signing his name always turned up the bottom of the final letter t. Three of my letters prove the contrary.

The letter A is, however, throughout the whole of the eighteen letters (with only one exception) without the loop. That to which I allude is in a letter about a haunch of venison, and Lockhart's carving it, in which he says, "he hack'd and new'd it well enough."

Yours, faithfully,

ROBERT COLE.

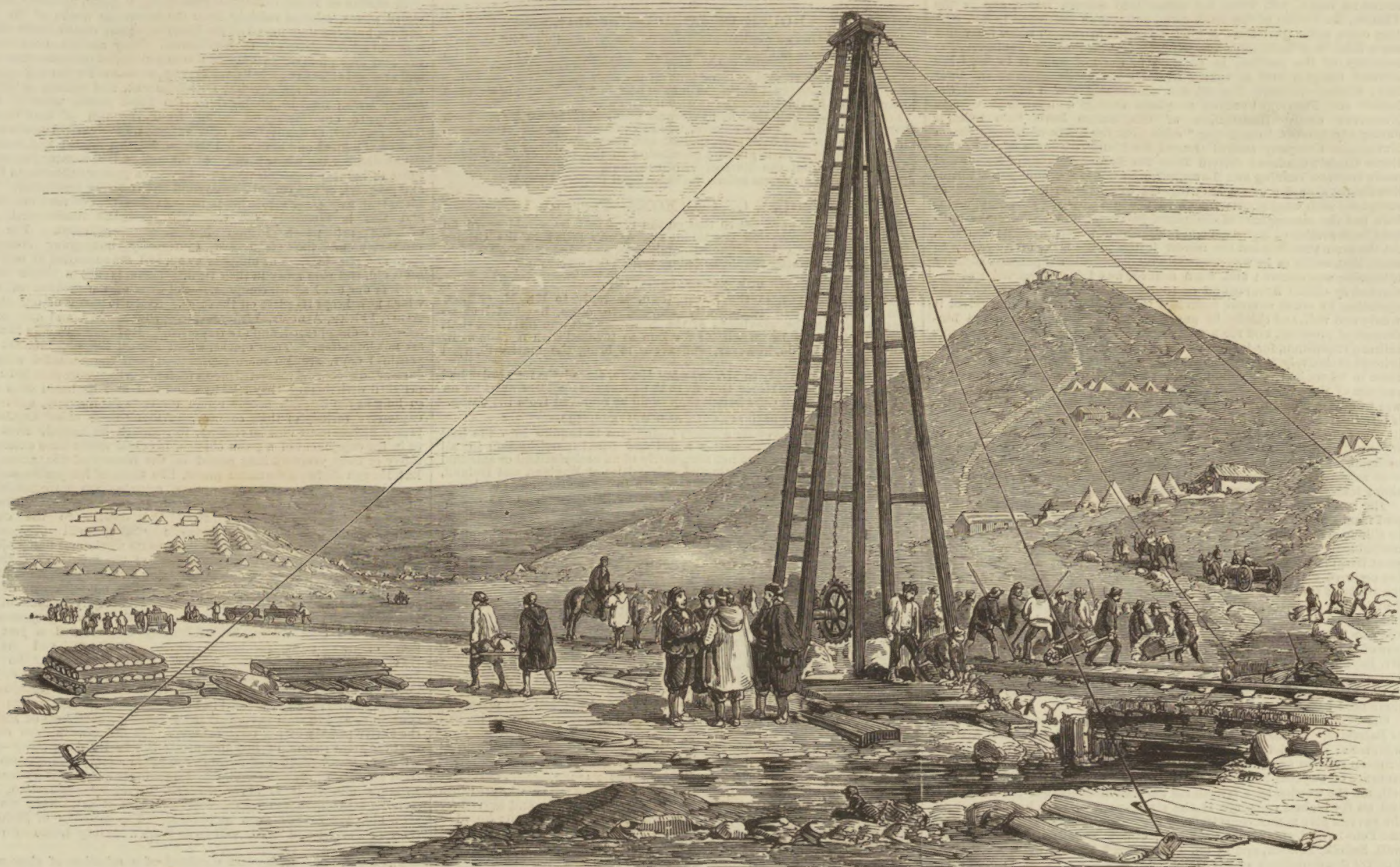
We observe, in the obituaries of the week, and with regret, that Copley Fielding, the celebrated painter in water-colours, died at Worthing on Saturday last, aged sixty-eight. He was at the very head of his profession, no artist ever having excelled him in his matchless rendering of English scenery—such as downs, waste lands, moors, &c. He was a most prolific painter, seldom allowing a season to pass by without at least a dozen exhibited works. He had, as he deserved, large prices, and his drawings will continue to be placed with the best examples of Girtin and Turner. Sussex was his favourite county.

DISCOVERY OF A REMARKABLE CAVERN.—There has just been discovered in the province of Logrono, between Torrecilla-de-Cameros and Penade-la-Miel, near the high-road from Madrid to France, and at a depth of about seventy feet below the level of the soil, a vaulted passage, seven feet in width, the upper part of which and the ground are covered with innumerable stalactites and stalagmites, which in many parts have united and formed pillars. Seen by torchlight this gallery, originally formed by the hand of man, but ornamented by that of nature, presents a perfectly fairy scene. This passage, which is from 150 to 160 feet in length, is terminated by a circular space of about 1500 square feet in extent, the roof of which is so high that the form of it cannot be distinguished. In the midst of this vast hall are the remains of a large funeral pile, surrounded at some distance by logs of wood, partly decayed and partly pulverised, and in another part are heaps of human bones, some calcined and others in their natural state. At different points are openings, some of which contain staircases in stone, but the height of which has not been yet ascertained, the foulness of the air preventing the persons who made this discovery from remaining any longer in the place.

A ROMAN ELECTIONEERING PLACARD.—In an establishment of ancient baths, discovered some time since among the ruins of Pompeii, in the street called the Odeon, there have lately been uncovered several grained windows looking into the street, and a door flanked by two pilasters, above which is painted this inscription:—"P. FVR. II. V.V.B. O. VF. Pubum Furium dumvium virum bonum oro vos faciatis" ("I beg you to name as dumviri P. Furius, an honest man." This is evidently a sort of placard made at the moment of an election.



COMMENCEMENT OF THE RAILWAY WORKS AT BALACLAVA.



KADIKOI, THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF SIR COLIN CAMPBELL, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

THE NAVVIES AT BALACLAVA.

It ought to be consoling to Mr. Carlyle and the mourners over the degeneracy of these our latter days, that there is at least one institution, and that a pre-eminently English one, which, despite climatic drawbacks and all sorts of deteriorating influences, exhibits all its original stamina and pristine healthiness—to wit, the British Navy. Everything we hear and read, from every quarter, testifies to the energetic, skilful, and matured progression of the great undertaking now advancing between Balaklava and the cannon-bristling heights of Sebastopol; and there cannot be a doubt that, when it has reached its terminus, those engaged upon it may safely adopt the motto of their honoured chief, Sir Morton Peto—"Ad Finem Fidelis."

It is already known that about 1½ mile of the road from Balaklava was completed on the 16th of February; and it was expected that Kadikoi—the first dépôt—would be reached on the 19th. The whole distance from the harbour to the trenches is about 6½ miles. To render the first four promptly available is the primary and important object. The statement made by Mr. Dundas, M.P., on Monday last, before the Roebuck Committee

of Inquiry, as to the state of Balaklava and the approaches around, is fully corroborated by letters before us, coming down to a much later date than the experience of the member for Linlithgow extends. The roads were frightful, the men working up to their middles in mud, while dead horses strewn the ground in every direction. The anticipation of the atmospheric consequences of this state of things had produced serious forebodings; and naturally so, when the reader hears that complaints had been made of the sultriness of the weather in the middle of last month, the thermometer being then 58 deg., though a few days previously 16 deg. below freezing-point. It is this extraordinary vicissitude which renders the climate of the Crimea so difficult to be provided against, and therefore so trying to the constitution. But before the apprehended pollution from these decomposing carcasses can set in, it is hoped that Mr. Rawlinson, the able engineering head of the Sanitary Commission, and whose great experience in the operation of the Health of Towns' measures pointed him out as peculiarly eligible for the present service, will have caused the removal of those accumulations which have long rendered the vicinity of Balaklava a synonym in every vocabulary for every abomination. The want of horses has hitherto been the great drawback to the speedy

realisation of the advantages expected to accrue from the railway. These were quite sufficient for all the purposes they were originally expected to be called on to fulfil; for in that, as in every other respect, the provision made by Captain Andrews, of the North of Europe Steam Company, under whose supervision the whole of the arrangements of the expedition were conducted, amply met all legitimate requirements. But, owing to the total deficiency of resources on the spot, the horses had not merely to be employed in making the line, but in working it, as far and as fast as it could be made; and hence the cry for more and more live-draught power. Eighty more, with thirty drivers, are on their way to Balaklava in the *City of Norwich* steamer, followed by the *Propeller*, carrying a large supply of fodder, of which there is great want in the Crimea. Both these steamers are paddles, and in the selection of these, and the total exclusion of screws, the heads of the Navy expedition have shown infinite sagacity, as compared with Government officials. Screw steamers, even of the very largest burden, as was exemplified in the case of the leviathan *Himalaya*, are quite unfitted for horse conveyance. With the very first puff of wind they begin to roll, and do not right themselves so long as the least wind continues; for the horses, being placed athwart, necessarily roll



THE RAILWAY WORKS AT BALACLAVA.

with the ship, and, in endeavouring to preserve their own perpendicular, cause her to sway. So great is the effect from the latter cause, that even in the case of a paddle steamer, though she may have run perfectly level across an ocean, yet, when she comes into smooth water, say in the Thames, the motion of the cattle communicates an oscillation to her, and they often suffer more from a brief detention in smooth water from this cause than in a fortnight's steaming in tolerably rough weather. The tendency of the paddles, in addition to the low sails, is to keep the steamer upright, and of course to keep the cattle straight on their legs; whereas a screw has all the disadvantages of a sailer, and the horses are literally knocked to pieces during a boisterous voyage. Numerous costly illustrations of this truism have been afforded during the present "chartering" crisis; but the North of Europe Steam Navigation Company steered clear of the blunder, because of the experience Captain Andrews derived from the Danish shippers of horses and cattle between Tonnung and Lowestoft, who would not now put a ton of live freight aboard a screw, knowing the deterioration that is caused as compared with what results from a voyage in a paddle. Fortunate had it been had the same species of disciplined judgment and business-like aptitude been availed of in the general fulfilment of governmental intentions. At the same time it is but the merest justice to the Duke of Newcastle to state, that, so far as he was personally concerned, all the practical capacity attainable was secured; and, when secured, was left unthwarted and unchecked by official intervention or routine immobility. Over whatever operation he could exercise undivided individual control, he exercised it wisely and well, and chiefly by guaranteeing it immunity from the hindrances of precedent and the hamperings of pedantry. In respect to this railroad expedition, for instance—the whole governmental merit of which belongs exclusively to his Grace—he placed it unreservedly in the hands of those to whom he had originally committed it; he ensured them the full exercise of their discretion—not only here, but in the Crimea—which he was wholly unable to do in other matters and with other bodies; and he is certainly deserving of a large share of the éclat which now accompanies its successful and invaluable prosecution. The *Times* has suggested the superiority of a plank-road; but the rail has this advantage, that the materials are far easier to convey to the spot: a plank-road of twenty feet wide would require fifty feet bulk per yard, while a railroad requires only about four feet bulk per yard.

The total number of workmen employed on the line, including those sent from Constantinople, is now nearly 900; and it is most gratifying to be able to add, that out of so large a number, drawn from a class not remarkable for habits of self-control, and placed in a sphere of novelty where great irregularities might be reasonably looked for, not a single instance has occurred demanding the presence of the Provost Martial, though in the ranks of the Army that functionary finds no such sinecure. A great deal of this must be attributed to the presence of the Rev. Mr. Gyngle, Chaplain of the (Navy) Forces, who has had a place of worship erected, and also to the excellent example of decorum and zeal set them by the officers of the corps, viz.:—Mr. Beatty, Mr. Kellock, Mr. Lance, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Raymond, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Camidge, the secretary and paymaster. Mr. Alfred Hawse, the surgeon to the corps, has given every satisfaction to those who have needed his services—fortunately very few so far, and of these none have been seriously ill.

Our first illustration shows the commencement of the railway works, at Balaklava. In the foreground are a party of navvies loading a truck with rails; on the left is the shipping in the harbour, which, as far as the Crimean railway expedition is concerned, is under the excellent superintendence of Captain Raymond, R.N. Above the town, on a dry gravelly soil, are the wooden huts erected for the accommodation of the workmen; and on the highest eminence is the signal-post. As the huts are put up, the navvies give names, conspicuously emblazoned, to the buildings, calling one Peto-terrace, another Preston-hall, others Napoleon, Victoria, Black-wall, Suffolk, London, and so on. The second illustration is a view near Kadikoi (head-quarters of Sir Colin Campbell), up to which point the railway is by this time completed, and in the hands of the military authorities; who, we may again take the opportunity of stating, are most favourable to the enterprise, and most courteous and considerate to all engaged in its promotion.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 8.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Mar. 2	29.323	52.8	39.7	45.2	+ 5.2	96	S.W.	0.14
" 3	28.879	51.0	35.1	41.2	+ 1.2	91	W.S.W.	0.20
" 4	29.583	51.1	32.2	40.7	+ 0.8	86	S.W.	0.07
" 5	29.700	53.8	29.7	40.8	+ 1.0	86	S.E.	0.00
" 6	29.864	50.8	29.6	38.0	— 1.7	87	E.	0.00
" 7	29.818	48.5	28.2	36.2	— 3.5	94	E.	0.00
" 8	30.066	47.4	26.3	36.2	— 3.7	80	E.N.E.	0.00

NOTE.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.32 inches at the beginning of the week, to 28.88 inches by the 3rd; increased to 29.86 inches by the 6th; decreased to 29.80 inches by the 7th; and increased to 30.07 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.610 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 39.8°, being 0.1° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 27.5° being the difference between the highest reading on the 5th, and the lowest on the 8th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 19.2°. The least was 13.1° on the 2nd, and the greatest 24.1° on the 5th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of four-tenths of an inch.

The weather has been for the most part fine. Some rain fell on the first three days of the week, and fog has recently been prevalent. The nights have been cold.

Lewisham, March 9, 1855.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births within the metropolitan districts in the week ending March 3, was 1726: of these, 838 were boys, and 888 girls. The average numbers from the preceding 10 years in the ninth week of the year, were 791 boys and 759 girls. The number of deaths registered within the same time was 1560, exceeding the calculated number for the week by no less than 364; indicating clearly, that though the rigorous weather has passed away, its effects still continue to be felt. The deaths in the last seven weeks were 10,968, and have exceeded the average for the period by 2288. The effect of the low temperature is shown as follows:—The average deaths from pneumonia, bronchitis, and asthma, in six weeks, are 951; the number from other causes rose to 2349 in six weeks. The cold, therefore, quickly brings to a fatal termination many chronic diseases which are not induced by the cold.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—On Saturday morning the election for the city of London, rendered necessary by the acceptance of office of Lord John Russell, took place in the Guildhall. Lord John Russell having been proposed and seconded, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Mugeridge asked whether any elector had another candidate to propose? Mr. J. Stonor proposed Sir Charles Napier; but the nomination not being seconded, Alderman and Sheriff Mugeridge declared Lord John Russell duly elected, amidst loud cheers. Mr. Samuel Morley then came forward to propose the following resolution:—

That, at a period like the present, when, by gross mismanagement on the part of the Executive Government, the high position of this country in the scale of nations has been in danger of being compromised, the citizens of London, in common hall, having elected as their representative in Parliament the noble Lord who has accepted office as one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, desire to place upon record the fact, that they have discharged this duty in the earnest hope and trust that the Government, of which the noble Lord is so important a member, will immediately and firmly grapple with, and effectually remove, the causes of that disastrous mismanagement which has been displayed in the conduct of the present war; and which, whether it has arisen from adherence to routine in the departments, from the incapacity of the men presiding over and employed in them, or from the overwhelming influence of political patronage, must, if left unremedied, involve the honour, the safety, and the free institutions of this country in extreme peril.

The resolution having been unanimously agreed to, Mr. P. A. Taylor declared that the four points, on the basis of which Lord John Russell had gone to Vienna to negotiate, were disgraceful and traitorous. Having declared that the British heart would have been delighted with a movement in favour of the depressed nationalities of Hungary, Poland, and Italy, he concluded by moving the adoption of the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this meeting no treaty with Russia will be satisfactory that does not enforce some material territorial clause.

The Sheriff declined to put the resolution, and Mr. Taylor then said he would submit it himself. He did so; and a large number of hands were held up in its favour.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 235.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Earl of ORKNEY called attention to the reported want of aptitude for their situations in the junior officers of her Majesty's service now on duty in the Crimea. The noble Earl proceeded at some length to vindicate their conduct, and to show that all the evils that had arisen to our army were attributable to the fact of the war in which we are engaged being treated by the Government as "a little war."

Lord PANMURE said that there were no grounds whatever for any such charges against the junior officers, whose conduct from the commencement of the war had been most gallant and honourable.

Their Lordships then granted permission to the Duke of Cambridge, the Earl of Lucan, the Earl of Cardigan, and Viscount Hardinge, to attend and give evidence before the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord A. PAGET gave notice that on the 22nd inst. he would move an address to the Queen that the widows of officers killed in the Crimea should receive the value of their commissions, and that while on actual service no Income-tax should be deducted from the officers' pay.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. M. Gibson, said that, as he had so recently acceded to office, he had had no time to consider the provisions of the Newspaper-stamp Bill; and that, therefore, it would be impossible for him to proceed with it to-morrow (Friday). He would, however, endeavour to bring the matter forward before Friday week.

Mr. F. PEEL, in reply to Mr. Bramley Moore, stated that no order had been issued from the Horse Guards to the effect that officers must be on the sick list fourteen days before they could be removed from the Camp.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the best means of affording to the nation a full and equal participation in all the advantages which are not necessarily of an ecclesiastical or spiritual character in the public schools and universities of England and Ireland, and of improving the Educational system in those great seats of learning, with a view to enlarge their course of instruction, in conformity with the requirements of the public service.

Mr. EWART seconded the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON opposed it; and, after some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

WAGES (HOSIERY).

Sir H. HALFORD asked leave to introduce a bill to restrain stoppages from wages in the hosiery manufacture.

Sir G. GREY opposed the motion, on the ground that the object was impracticable and merely tended to encourage a delusion. He would not, however, object to the reappointment of the Committee of last session.

Mr. PACE, Sir J. WALMSLEY, and Mr. BOOKER supported the motion, on the ground that a measure of the kind was absolutely necessary for the welfare of the labouring classes.

Mr. GARDNER opposed the motion as an attempt by the Legislature to raise the wages of the operatives.

Mr. W. FOX denied that that was the object of the bill, but merely to compel the manufacturer to pay to the operative the wages he had honestly earned.

After some further discussion the House divided—For the motion, 58; against it, 96: majority against the motion, 38.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER.

Mr. MALINS called the attention of the House to the naval operations in the Baltic under Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, and moved for a copy of any correspondence which had passed between the Board of Admiralty, or any member of her Majesty's Government, and Sir Charles Napier since the 20th day of December last. The hon. and learned gentleman read extracts from the correspondence which had taken place between the gallant Admiral and Sir James Graham, with the view of showing that Admiral Napier was actually dismissed for not attacking and destroying Sveaborg with his own fleet alone at the end of October—an operation which had been unanimously pronounced impracticable at so late a period as the month of September by the French and English Admirals at a conference held upon the subject on board the *Duke of Wellington*.

Sir T. HERBERT seconded the motion.

Sir J. GRAHAM denied that Sir Charles Napier had been dismissed from his command of the fleet in the Baltic. However, since the return of the gallant Admiral to this country, his conduct had been so indiscreet, and his correspondence with the Admiralty from the outset had been so turbulent and insubordinate, that the Board of Admiralty felt they could not in justice order him to rehoist his flag. On the 24th of September Sir C. Napier wrote to the Admiralty that, in his opinion, Sveaborg was attackable by sea; and he (Sir J. Graham), in his reply on the 5th October, assented to his making the attack, but still expressed a hope that he would be guided by a sound discretion. Sir J. Graham then proceeded to censure the gallant Admiral for making disclosures of a confidential nature to the honourable and learned gentleman who had undertaken his defence in that House.

Admiral WALCOTT justified the conduct of Sir C. Napier in the Baltic. Sir C. WOOD was opposed to the production of the papers, inasmuch as he thought that their publication would be injurious to the public service.

In the course of some further discussion, Lord PALMERSTON stated that he had then as high an opinion as he had ever entertained of Admiral Napier's abilities, and he was not disposed to retract a word he had uttered at the Reform dinner in praise of the gallant Admiral.

The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

It having been ascertained from the returns that the 10th Hussars, now en route for the Crimea from Bombay, can scarcely muster 600 efficient men, including those at the dépôt in Maidstone, orders have been issued to complete the strength to 800 sabres.

GOVERNMENT having agreed to take into service for the East such officers in the United Kingdom of the Company's service as are willing to act in command of the Turkish Contingent, the applications have been very numerous—something about 300. The number required for the present—about 120—have been selected from the most intelligent. It is stated that each officer will be allowed fifty-one days' pay in advance.

ACTIVE measures are about being taken in reference to the formation of a camp at the Curragh of Kildare. Announcements have been made to the effect that the Commanding Royal Engineer in Ireland will receive proposals for the construction and erection of 430 wooden buildings, to accommodate ten battalions of infantry, with ten others for staff purposes, and ten for officers' stables, at the Curragh of Kildare, in the Dublin district. The whole of the buildings are to be completed within 60 days after the acceptance of the tender. It is expected that the work will be completed by the end of May or beginning of June.

Two Lieutenant-Colonels of Royal Marines will, it is expected, be embarked this year for service in the Baltic fleet—one from the Artillery, and one from the Light Infantry branch; with two Captains to attend to the duties of the first-named branch when disembarked for shore operations.

The fleet now assembling at Portsmouth is daily becoming of more interest and importance. There appears likely to be a Channel squadron as well as a Baltic fleet, if report may be trusted. Sundry ships have been ordered to refit "for Channel service." Two more arrivals (the *Nile*, 91, and *Euryalus*, 51, from Plymouth) have augmented the force at Spithead, which will now be hourly swelling towards its fully-intended proportions of "one hundred pennants." The *Impérieuse*, 51, also joined the gathering on Saturday. The utmost activity pervades every department of the dockyard. The ships still in hand are the *James Watt*, 91, Captain Elliott; the *Blenheim*, 60, Captain Hall, which will leave the basin this day; the *Hogue*, 60, Captain Ramsay; the *Pembroke*, 60, Captain G. H. Seymour; the *Hastings*, 60, Captain Caffin; the *Edinburgh*, 60, Captain Hewlett; the *Retribution*, 28, Captain Fisher; the *Peneope*, 18, Captain Sir W. Wiseman; the *Centaur*, 6, Captain Clifford; and the *Basiliak*, 6, Commander the Hon. F. Egerton. The *Arrogant*, 46, Captain Yelverton, is ready for Spithead.

COLONEL R. G. WILSON having retired from the service on promotion, Lieut.-Colonel Mitchell has been appointed to command the Royal Artillery at Shoeburyness, which command Colonel Wilson held since his return from a West India station.

LIEUT.-COLONEL DUNLOP is to proceed to China by the next mail, to relieve Colonel Griffin, in command of Hong-Kong.

The preparations for the encampment at Aldershot-heath, are now being pushed forward vigorously; several hundred labourers are daily employed in forming concrete roads and footways, and forming the foundation of the temporary wooden buildings. The ground is to be ready for the troops about the 20th inst.

MR. HORSMAN, who has been appointed Secretary for Ireland, was re-elected for the borough of Stroud, on Tuesday, without opposition. In his speech to the electors, he dilated on the blundering management of the war at some length, and of the glorious deeds achieved by our army in spite of this blundering.

MUSIC.

A SERIES of Vocal Concerts, consisting of glees, quartets, and concerted pieces, selected entirely from the numerous works of Sir Henry Bishop, has been commenced at the Hanover-square rooms, under the management of Mr. Mitchell, of Bond-street. They are afternoon concerts: the first took place on Tuesday last, commencing at half-past three o'clock and ending before five; a judicious brevity, sufficient for the full enjoyment of a highly refined and classical entertainment, and entirely avoiding the satiety which may be produced by the finest music, when it belongs entirely to one class, and is all from the pen of one composer. These concerts, as might have been expected, have excited much interest. Bishop is a great and honoured name in English music; and, indeed, we doubt whether the whole history of the art in this country furnishes the name of another musician who has exercised a greater influence on its state and progress, or has earned a more solid and enduring reputation. Music, more than any other art, is liable to the vicissitudes of taste and fashion; and this is especially the case with dramatic music—that branch of the art which Bishop has chiefly cultivated. The entertainments of the stage are continually undergoing changes in form and structure. The old pass away, and are succeeded by new, which grow old, and pass away in their turn. There is not a single dramatic work of our old English composers—not even of the greatest of them—which now keeps its place on the stage. All the pieces of our Purcells, Arnes, Shields, Arnolds, Linleys—pieces so charming, and once so popular—have disappeared, and are forgotten. But the composers themselves are not forgotten. Their operas, which formed the enchantment of our youthful days, are no more represented; but the beautiful songs, and duets, and glees, and concerted pieces with which they were enriched have not perished with them. They still live, and will still be heard with delight, so long as the English people retain the taste for the pure, natural, and expressive melody of their country. Among these older English composers Bishop must now be classed; for, though he happily lives among us in the enjoyment of a green old age, his chief works have existed these thirty or forty years—a long period in the history of the musical stage. But, though Bishop's dramatic pieces, like those of his predecessors, have passed away, yet the gems they contain are imperishable, and time will have no effect in dimming their lustre. His vocal pieces are now transferred from the theatre to the chamber; and, in our social and domestic circles, will ever continue to delight every one whose taste preserves its wholesome nationality, and is not vitiated by the foreign affectations of the day. In speaking thus, we would not be misunderstood as indulging a vulgar prejudice against the foreign schools of music, from which the English musician may derive the greatest benefit. Purcell himself, the most thoroughly national of all our musicians, was an assiduous student of the Italian composers of his day. In his own words, he "faithfully endeavoured a just imitation of the most far-famed Italian masters; and he adds, that 'though unskilful in the Italian language, he thinks he may warrantably affirm that he is not mistaken in the power of the Italian notes, or the elegance of their compositions.'"

Bishop, in like manner, studied in the Italian school. He had an Italian education, and learned to engraft the grace and smoothness of Italy upon the native melody of his own country. It has always been remarked that the great charm of Bishop's music lies in its *naturalness*—as if it were the simple effusion of feeling, flowing in an easy and copious stream from a "well of music undefiled." Limpid transparency is a character of Bishop's music; it is never rendered turbid by elaboration, and its seeming artlessness is really the consummation of art. Such music will grow old, but cannot grow antiquated. The melodies of Bishop (like those of Purcell and Arne) will be as fresh a century hence as they are now.

The concert of Tuesday last consisted of a selection of glees and concerted pieces, chiefly taken from Bishop's theatrical works; care being taken to choose such as are most independent of the action and accessories of the stage. They were sung by Masters Sullivan, Cooke, Malsch, and Norman; Messrs. Francis, Benson, Lawler, Buckland, and Land. These dramatic pieces require to be accompanied on the pianoforte, and this was done by the composer himself; the glees, not originally written for the theatre, were of course sung without any instrumental accompaniment. Every piece in the programme had its own peculiar interest; those which appeared to make the strongest impression on the audience were, the quartet, "Sleep, gentle lady" (one of Bishop's most popular compositions), composed for the opera of "Clari"; "Though he be now a grey, grey Friar," from "Maid Marian"; "The Savoyard," written for Sheridan Knowles's "William Tell"; the glee, "Hark, Apollo strikes the lyre"; and the settee, "Stay, pry thee stay, the night is dark," from the "Miller and his Men"—a piece which contains some of Bishop's very finest productions.

All the music was admirably sung and warmly applauded, several things being loudly encored. The audience were very numerous, and of a highly musical cast; many "familiar faces" of our most distinguished musicians and lovers of music being visible in all parts of the room.

The second concert is announced for this day (Saturday). A full chorus is to be introduced; and the programme includes "The Chough and Crow," "The Tiger Crouches," "Fill, boys, fill," and several others of Bishop's most favourite choral pieces. This is a great improvement on the plan of the concerts, and we should have recommended it had not the suggestion been anticipated.

The HARMONIC UNION had their second concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday evening. It consisted of the "Lobgesang" (Hymn of Praise) of Mendelssohn, and the "Stabat Mater" of Rossini. The performance, as on the previous occasion, suffered from unavoidable causes. Mr. Sims Reeves was so much indisposed that, after singing for a part of the evening with a degree of effort painful to himself and the audience, he was forced to retire, and was replaced by Mr. Herbert; and Mrs. Reeves, from a similar cause was unable to appear at all. She was to have sustained the principal soprano part in the "Stabat Mater," which was taken by Madame Weiss in such a manner as to leave nothing to be desired. The second soprano part was excellently sung by Miss Lascelles, a young vocalist who is making great progress in her art. Mr. Herbert sang very well, but omitted the principal tenor air, "Cujus animam," for which, under the circumstances, he could not be blamed. The bass part was given by Mr. Weiss with an effect which no other singer of his class could have surpassed. The instrumental orchestra was very good, but the chorus was deficient in strength. The performance was conducted with great ability by Herr Molique, and, on the whole, was received with approbation by a large audience.

JENNY LIND—or, as she was named in the announcement, Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt, sang at the Hall of the Park, Amsterdam, on Wednesday and Saturday last. The Hall, though one of the largest in the city, was crowded to excess; and on Saturday morning not a single ticket could be had, and many paid three and four florins for the privilege of standing along the passages. Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt was encored in all the songs, two of which she very good-naturedly repeated. Two or three of her magnificent cadenzas in "Quand je quittais," brought down thunders of applause; but nothing could have astonished an audience more than her performance of a Norwegian echo-song. It took the quiet Dutch ladies and gentlemen by storm. Herr Goldschmidt's performance on the piano was also of the best, and earned immense applause.—From a Correspondent.

ON Wednesday evening the Master and Wardens of the Society of Apothecaries held a microscopical *conversazione*, at Apothecaries'-hall. The rooms were very well filled, and among those present were Professor Faraday, Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Graham, Mr. James Yates, Mr. Appold, and many eminent medical men.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—The Duke of Cambridge, with the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, attended by the Baron Knesbeck, honoured the Diorama illustrating the events of the War with a visit on Wednesday evening. The Earl of Cardigan paid a second visit to the Gallery of Illustration on Wednesday afternoon.

A RUSSIAN PROPAGANDIST ORGAN.—About the middle of this month we expect to see a new journal, in the French language, started in Berlin by the Russian Government, to be entitled *Journal du Nord*. The funds are to be derived from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in St. Petersburg, and the paper will be conducted under the management of a member of the Russian Embassy here. The chief editor will be M. Creteanu-Jolly, known in the literary world as a zealous defender of the Order of Jesus. Two sub-editors will be supplied from the head-quarters of the Russian propaganda in Brussels, and a third from St. Petersburg.—Letter from Berlin.

THE IRISH ABDUCTION CASE.—An Irish paper states that the conditions on which Mr. Carden is to be discharged from imprisonment for the attempted abduction of Miss Arbutnot are as follows:—"That he shall enter into a bond, himself in £20,000, and two sureties in £5000 each, to keep the peace towards all her Majesty's subjects for ten years, and that, on liberation from gaol, he will quit the country until the term of his imprisonment shall have expired. Mr. Carden, agreeing to those stipulations, will be released at his approaching assizes of Clonmel, when he will depart for Brussels to recruit his health."

THE SUPPRESSED PAMPHLET ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

NEVER was a war more discussed,—the subject of greater diversity of opinions, both as regards its policy and conduct, its general objects and its details, than that in which we are now engaged. Even before the first campaign is over we find military men, officers high in command, quitting the scene of action, and returning home to express opinions, or, more ominously, to assume an expressive silence upon past events, and to speculate vaguely upon the future; whilst others, who have hitherto taken no part in the war, have been even more forward to canvass the dispositions made by the Commanders. These discussions, or rather the occasion for them, are to be regretted; but it is impossible in these days of freedom of opinion and of expression to interdict them. The French Government, however, has attempted to do so, and the consequence has been that a pamphlet, entitled "De la Conduite de la Guerre d'Orient, Expedition de Crimée"—being a memoir addressed to the Government of the Emperor Napoleon III., and purporting to be written by a General Officer, in the French service—having been suppressed in France, has been taken to Brussels to be printed, where it is now being disseminated over all parts of Europe, France alone excepted. Whether this pamphlet be, as has been noised about, from the pen of Prince Napoleon, or from that of some underling retainer in his suite, it is impossible too strongly to denounce the evident bad spirit in which it has been got up; and the unscrupulous inaccuracies (many of them too flagrant to have been accidental) with which it abounds. That a Prince of the new Imperial House of France should, under the influence of personal pique, deliberately sit down to malign his Sovereign, his friend, his patron—to misrepresent his policy, and to pervert his motives—to blacken, also, the character of his superior in military rank, under whom, at his own urgent request, he served, and who fell a glorious but painful death in the midst of the execution of his duty, is hardly to be credited; and we would gladly see his Highness's character cleared of the foul imputation.* Meantime, however, the pamphlet is sure to be read; and although, in its general tendencies, a mischievous purpose is too clearly perceptible, there are some matters which, in a military point of view, and particularly in reference to the strategy of the present campaign, it may be curious to speculate upon. In now examining some of these points, we need hardly caution the reader that we do so simply as a matter of abstract criticism, and without at all pinning faith to the statements of the author—some of which are probably correct, but many of which are unquestionably apocryphal.

Supposing the revelations of the "General Officer" as to the ruling policy of the campaign to be correct, the conclusion forced upon all readers must be, that never was a great military expedition, so brilliant in its external aspect, undertaken under more unfavourable circumstances, as regarded its *morale* and its internal organisation, than that of the Allied armies to the Crimea, in September, 1854. We say this irrespectively of abstract considerations of the wisdom and expediency of the undertaking itself. Two circumstances are to be noted in respect of this expedition, which might have defeated the wisest and best-laid plans:—First, it was undertaken against the inward conviction of a very large minority, if not actually of the majority of the principal Generals commanding; and, secondly, the officer commanding-in-chief in deference to whose views it was undertaken, was, from physical ailment, incapacitated from superintending its conduct, and was removed by death before the preliminary stages of the campaign were completed.

With regard to the Expedition itself, the writer paints in lively colours the enthusiasm of the troops, English and French, as they successively landed at Gallipoli, to the blended sounds of "God Save the Queen," and the "Marseillaise," and their high hopes of speedily engaging the common enemy, with the certainty of conquering. On the 21st of May the Allied Generals held a conference with Omer Pacha, at Varna, at which a combined plan of operations was agreed upon—the field of action being the Danube, which the "General Officer" insists was the only proper one. By the middle of June there were at Varna 38,000 or 40,000 of the Allied troops "who demanded to march to Schumla and Silistria." The treaty of June 20th was signed between Austria and the Porte, by which the Principalities were put into the hands of the former Power, conferring upon Russia "the advantage of collecting all her forces upon any point that the Allies might think proper to menace."

"The sorrow which the notification of the treaty of the 20th of June caused amongst the Generals and superior officers of the army was indescribable. The Prince Napoleon manifested the most lively indignation at it. One French General muttered something about treason (*trahison*); the Turks were absolutely at a loss to understand anything in the matter. "The English were silent—gave no expression of opinion, in accordance with their military habits. General Scarlett, on being spoken to on the subject, coldly saluted his interlocutor, and left him on the plea of urgent business. It were vain to interrogate Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge; they would have given no reply." Marshal St. Arnaud alone appeared to be satisfied, and to understand what was going on.

The invasion of Russia by the three Allied armies, by land, by which the Crimea might have been cut off like a wen, at the isthmus of Perekop, was abandoned; and the descent upon the Crimea, and siege of Sebastopol determined upon. The former was the plan of the Generals on the spot; the latter of the Emperor Napoleon himself. "It was in the Cabinet of the Tuileries that originated the idea of this expedition; it was conceived in solitude. The Emperor, bending over a map with attentive eye, the compasses in his hand, passed many long hours in elaborating this scheme, and he forwarded it to Constantinople entirely written out in his own hand, and without having previously communicated it to any one." These instructions reached Marshal St. Arnaud in the course of July; he accepted and adopted them without reserve or hesitation. A reconnaissance of the south-western coast of the Crimea was made by General Canrobert, General Brown, Admiral Lyons, and some other officers, from on board the *Furieux*; but the observations so made were confined to the selection of a convenient place for landing, and the best route thence to Sebastopol; and had nothing to do with the position or resources of the enemy in the Crimea.

On the 10th of August a Council of War was held at Varna, at which the Marshal explained the idea of the projected expedition. The plan was to select a proper landing-place, effect the landing of the troops under the protection of the guns of the fleet, defeat the Russians in an engagement, and then "march straight upon Sebastopol and carry it by a *coup-de-main*." "All eyes were now turned towards Lord Raglan. He had a thoughtful aspect, and his face during some minutes past had expressed all the incredulity of his mind. Lord Raglan objected to the want of information as to the forces of the Russians, and the condition of the place on the land side. The maps furnished no indications upon the latter point. The roads, rivers, and natural obstacles were unknown. It was an unfavourable field for battle. The English General objected, above all, that the army was deficient in cavalry, whilst the Russians are well supplied with excellent horses.

"Vice-Admiral Hamelin spoke with some warmth. In his opinion the expedition, undertaken under such circumstances, resembled very much an adventure. The forces of the Allies appeared to him to be insufficient for the purpose." He then went on to point out that the fleet, though they might do good service in covering the landing of the troops, might afterwards, by stress of weather, be prevented from co-operating; and he pointed out with emphasis the treacherous character of the sea and winds in the autumn and winter months. Marshal St. Arnaud replied briefly, but with energy:—"He reiterated his former arguments with greater force;" and concluded by "resting on the very competent authority of the Emperor." Prince Napoleon spoke for three-quarters of an hour in opposition to the project:—"The authority of the Emperor," he insisted, "was no doubt very high in this matter; but the Emperor at Biarritz (whence the instructions had been dispatched) was not in a position to take account of the practical difficulties of the enterprise." He

then went on to argue in favour of an expedition crossing the Danube and the Pruth for the capture of Perekop.

The account of this memorable Council thus concludes:—

"What will happen," asked Lord Raglan, "if the place resists, and if it should be well fortified?"

The Marshal replied that, in that case, they would have to lay siege to it, and that, by occupying the fortifications on the northern side, they would necessarily become masters of the town. If the fortification on the north presented too serious obstacles, it would be easy to pass to the south, turning the position, and to undertake a regular siege with the co-operation and protection of the fleets, which would find good anchorage on the coast, especially at Balaklava, already inspected by Sir Edmund Lyons.

The details of the expedition were then minutely entered into; and the proposal, upon being put to the vote, obtained the approbation of a large majority in the Council. Notwithstanding the very sensible objections expressed by him, Lord Raglan in the end gave an affirmative vote, General Bosquet, the like; this was an error. The four who remained to the last in opposition to the scheme, were the Vice-Admiral Hamelin, Vice-Admiral Dundas, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Napoleon.

The events which followed are too fresh in our minds to need repetition. The fruitless bombardment of the town during seven consecutive days, from the 17th to the 24th of October, virtually brought the first campaign to a close; and at one time, particularly after the affair of Inkerman, it was seriously under discussion to end the affair, either by venturing an assault or re-embarking the troops. Neither course, however, was practicable, in face of the position held by the enemy.

To sum up, the "General Officer" says:—"Could we have taken Sebastopol by a *coup de main* on the northern side after the battle of Alma? Perhaps so; in any case it ought to have been attempted. Once arrived on the southern side, was it possible to reduce the place by bombardment and breaching? This is more questionable; the position was reversed, and to our disadvantage; for, after carrying the place, we should not, under any hypothesis, have been able to retain possession of it." As previously stated by Marshal St. Arnaud, the northern fortifications command the town; and one of these alone—the Sieverna Fort—is armed with 300 pieces of large calibre, defended by a garrison of 3000 men:—"It is useless to make siege to the town of Sebastopol without the possession of that culminating point; and the place, supposing it to be reduced, would not be tenable as long as the Sieverna Fort is in the hands of the enemy."

We have only to add that, whilst we fully appreciate the disastrous commencement of this great expedition, we do not participate in the writer's discouraging expectations for the future.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. W., of S.—The following is the world-famed "Indian" Problem:—White: K at Q R sq, R at Q sq, Bs at K R 6th and K Kt 2nd; Ps at K Kt 4th, K B 2nd, Q Kt 3rd, and Q 2nd. Black: K at K 4th, Kt at K B 6th, Ps at K 4th, Q Kt 3rd and 4th. White to play, and mate in four moves. Your solution is correct.

J., Stonehouse.—Your solution of D'Orville's beautiful End-game is the true one.

F. R., of Norwich.—Contributors should always send their address. It is impossible to report on one-tenth of the Problems submitted to us, through the medium of the paper.

F. R. O.—You should send the Solution. The position, if we mistake not, is an old one.

J. Denois, Rome.—A reply shall be forwarded in a few days. Meanwhile accept our cordial thanks.

R. M. D.—Any covenant in a Problem, beyond the ordinary one of White or Black to mate in so many moves, detracts, in our opinion, from the value of the position.

L. H.—A little steady attention would have shown you that the key to Enigma 910 is 1.—Kt to K 4th; and that, in 911, the first move is Q to K 6th.

M. F., of C.—Too obvious.

J. GROVE.—We are very sorry to say we cannot appreciate either the design or execution. The computer, it is evident from the anti-part of the problem, must have been a Russian. The known chess position of his subject, and the attempt to reach Chess as he would the game of Chess, and to reach Chess as he would the game of Chess, is essentially complex and intricate, and devoid of those characteristics, it would be no longer Chess—*ingenium* con—but a mere school-boy's sport, utterly unworthy the regard of grave and studious minds.

L. A. M.—The key-move to July's charming Problem, "Stella," is—White: K to Q B 3rd. The first move in that by E. A. M. M. is—White: P to Q B 3rd.

A. K.; W. C. C.—They shall be carefully examined.

SENEZ.—Lay in a stock of blank Chess diagrams, from Kent's, of Paternoster-row; and you can then make your transcript in a fourth of the time.

W. C. C.—We do not think the operation of Casting is fairly allowable in a Chess problem.

A. F., Florence.—Our wishes respecting your last most interesting and opportune discovery shall be made known to you by letter immediately.

DELTA.—Try your skill upon the famous Indian Problem which we give in the present Notice. This strategem is considered the finest four-move position known.

VON H. d. L., Brussels.—The promised communications were duly dispatched through the channel indicated, on the last inst.

G. T. M.—Unpublished games of the late M. Kieseritzky are somewhat rare. A few, however, have recently been forwarded to this journal by a distinguished French player, and are now nearly ready for the press.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 575, by J. Stonehouse, C. W. of S., Cyron, P. P. O. N., Philo-Chess, Medius, M.P.; J. A. M. of Fakenham, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 576, by Deron, J. Stonehouse, F. T. Derby, E. H. Norwich, Persius, D. D., Omega, F. R. Norwich, W. M. W., W. C. C., Corbett, Sherburn, M. S., Hanworth, J. A. M. of Fakenham, Omifron, Derby, R. T. L., Cantab, True-Blue, Philz, Alpha, An Old Salt, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 575.

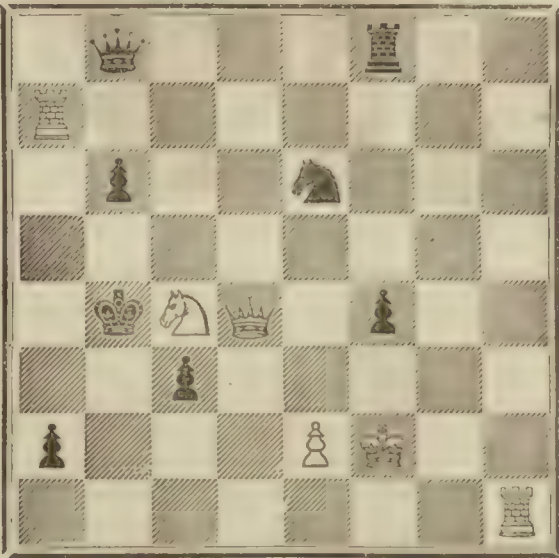
WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to K Kt 5th B takes Q, or (n)
2. R to Q R 6th Any move
3. B to Kt 6th

(n) 1. B takes H
2. Q takes P (ch) Any move
3. Q mates

PROBLEM No. 577.

By MR. H. TURTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 912.—By E. B. C., of Hoboken, New Jersey.

White: K at Q Kt 7th, R at Q Kt 3rd, B at K 3rd, Kt at Q B 4th, P at Q B 7th.
Black: K at Q 4th, P at K 5th.
White to play and Mate in two moves.

No. 913.—By J. Stonehouse.

White: K at Q R 5th, Bs at K Kt 4th, and K 3rd, Kts at Q 4th and Q B 6th; Ps at K R 5th, K B 3rd, and Q Kt 2nd.
Black: K at Q 4th; Ps at K Kt 4th and 6th, K B 2nd, K 3rd, Q 3rd, Q Kt 5th and 6th.
White to play and Mate in four moves.

No. 914.—By Mr. H. TURTON.

White: K at Q R sq, Ks at K 8th and Q B 8th, Bs at Q 8th and Q 5th, P at Q 6th.
Black: K at Q 2nd, P at K 2nd.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

ENAMELOID PHOTOGRAPHY.—We have just seen some portraits consisting of the usual paper photographs, cemented upon glass with gelatine by a method which has been practised for some months past by Mr. John Stone, of Clifton-road, Brighton. Its superiority consists in making the uneven surface of paper acquire the appearance of enamel, bringing out the minute details of the picture with greatly increased distinctness, and giving a brilliancy of effect not hitherto obtained. To the photographs thus treated, Mr. Stone applied the name of enameloid, as it conveys at once an idea of their character.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord John Russell and suite arrived at Vienna on Sunday evening, at eight o'clock. Apartments have been taken for the noble Lord and his suite at the Hotel de Russie, Vienna, while the Russian Plenipotentiary to the Vienna Conference, Councillor Von Titoff, is staying at the British Hotel in the same city.

The Empress of Austria was delivered of a daughter on Monday last.

The French Emperor and Empress drove in an open carriage, without escort of any kind, along the Boulevards on Tuesday afternoon. They alighted at a house on the Italian Boulevards, where they remained about an hour, and then proceeded on their promenade to the Champs Elysées.

The Right Hon. the Speaker gave his fourth Parliamentary dinner on Saturday, at his mansion in Eaton-square. The Speaker will hold two levees this season—the first on Saturday (to-day), the second on Saturday, March 17th, both at ten o'clock.

The Emperor of Austria has addressed an autograph letter to King Victor Emmanuel, expressing his sincere condolence on the losses recently experienced by the Royal Family of Sardinia.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have invited a distinguished party to meet at dinner on Saturday (to-day), at the London Tavern, Major-General Vivian and the officers of the Turkish Contingent, about to take their departure for the East.

The Archduke William, the personal friend of the new Emperor of Russia, left Vienna on Saturday last, with an autograph letter from the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor Alexander.

General the Marquis Alphonse de la Marmora, Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian Contingent for the Crimea, accompanied by Lord Hatherton, visited Portsmouth on Saturday, and inspected the *Honolulu*, the fortifications, &c., and also the fortifications at Science Point, Isle of Wight.

The King of Denmark is seriously ill. On Monday the symptoms were alarming. The bulletins say that the cough is violent and fever severe, with great restlessness.

General Roguet, Aide-de-Camp to the French Emperor, has been nominated Commander of the First Division of Infantry of the Army of Paris, in the room of General Levasseur, who has been placed on the reserve.

Sir James Graham is making preparations for removing from the Admiralty to his mansion in Grosvenor-place; and Sir Charles Wood is about to vacate his residence in Belgrave-square, for the official residence attached to the post he has assumed in the new Ministry.

A letter from Vienna of the 23rd ult., states that the Grand Duchess Sophia is so indisposed as to be obliged to keep her room. It is also said that the Duke of Brunswick is seriously indisposed.

The gold medal annually granted by the English Government to an architect of distinguished merit, has been this year awarded to M. Hittorf, member of the Institute of France. This is the third time since its institution that this medal has been awarded to a foreigner.

The Earl of Gifford is appointed additional private secretary to Lord Lammure.

Prince Frederic Oscar has been named Commander of the Norwegian fleet.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has appointed Sir Alexander Duff Gordon, Bart., of the Treasury, to be his private secretary.

Major Govone, who was sent to the Crimea some time ago by the Piedmontese Government, has returned to Turin.

Mr. Layard has been elected Lord Rector of the Aberdeen University, by a majority of three out of the four nations over Col. Sykes.

M. Egger, member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, found in an Egyptian papyrus brought to France by M. Mariette, an unpublished fragment of a lost tragedy of Euripides.

Sir John Young, the late Irish Secretary, who has been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, will take his departure for Corfu about the end of the month.

The French Emperor has caused a number of fine horses to be purchased in the Calvados. The Prince Jerome has also just purchased four beautiful black carriage horses at Caen.

The Duke of Argyll has intimated his intention to be in Glasgow about the end of March or the beginning of April, for the purpose of being installed as Lord Rector of the University.

On the same day, and nearly at the same hour, that the Emperor of Russia died at St. Petersburg, the veteran Republican, Dupont (de l'Eure) breathed his last at Rougemerrie, in Normandy.

A bas-relief in white marble, representing Esculapius at the bedside of a patient, has just been brought over by the *Phlegathon* from Cyzica, in Asia Minor, for the museum of the Louvre.

Workmen have commenced the removal of the raised grass-plot in the centre of the court of the Louvre; and a pedestal is to be built on the site for an equestrian statue of Francis I., by Clesinger.

Sir J. McNeil, G.C.B., and the members of the Sanitary Commission appointed to examine the state of the British military hospitals in the East, together with several civil engineers, sailed from Marseilles for Constantinople in the steam-ship *Tamise* on the 25th ult.

The important office of Master of the Mint is now vacant, Sir John Herschel having tendered his resignation.

A Republican notability, named Bernard, who was the grave-digger of the French Executive Government in 1793, has just died in a village near Lyons. It was he who received from the hands of the Abbé Sylvain Renaud, the first Vicar of the church of the Madeleine, for the purpose of burial, the bodies of King Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette, which were both placed in open coffins.

The number of members of the French Academy is at present only thirty-nine—the chair formerly occupied by M. Baour-Lormain not having yet been filled up.

A banquet is to be given to Captain McClure, discoverer of the North-West Passage, in the borough of Wexford, on the 23rd of March, when a number of the neighbouring nobility and gentry are expected to be present.

On the 14th ult. the port of Odessa was frozen up to a distance of two versts from the shore; the thermometer registered twelve degrees of Réaumur below zero.

A Liverpool firm has been prosecuted for fraudulently obtaining the register of a Russian vessel as an English one, by pretending that it had changed owners. Decision on the case has been adjourned.

Shocks of an earthquake in Mexico were experienced on the 1st and 2nd of February, which caused some damage to the city.

Notwithstanding the demand for small-arms, the gunmakers of Birmingham connected with the Tower work are not fully employed. This arises partly from an inadequate supply of bayonets and other materials.

Several cases of cholera have occurred within the last fortnight at Berlin, although the average temperature has been about 8 deg. below zero, Réaumur. At St. Petersburg, with an average of 15 to 18 deg., the disease has increased.

At the last meeting of the Leicester board of guardians, the number relieved was stated by the clerk to be—Out-door, 2722; in-door, 825. Corresponding period last year—Out-door, 203; indoor, 503.

The glass trade in Birmingham is more than usually flat, and one of the principal firms in the town have reduced their workpeople to three days' employment per week.

While Europe has been undergoing so severe a winter, at Algeria, says the *Akhbar*, the thermometer has never been lower than eight degrees above zero Centigrade (47 Fahr.), and that only for two days.

The project of arranging special direct trains from Berlin to Paris, during the Exhibition, is being matured into a plan.

Last week the licensing magistrates, at their meeting at Croydon, granted a spirit licence to Messrs. Staples for the Crystal Palace. In support of the application, evidence was given by Mr. Grove, the secretary, that 1,200,000 persons had been admitted to the Palace since its opening, and that £31,000 had been taken for refreshments.

The fire which broke out lately in the Imperial Palace at Prague destroyed twenty-two rooms, including two large saloons. The damage is estimated at about 1,500,000.

An order for 20,000 spindles is now being completed in Preston, for a large manufacturing establishment at Bombay.

The committee of the Danish Volksthing has resolved not to admit the excess illegally charged on the national budget by the late Cabinet for military, naval, and other purposes. The ex-Ministers are to be impeached.

The annual account published on Saturday, shows that the receipts of the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty for the year 1853, amounted to £212,341, and the disbursements to £213,393.

A large fourgon, containing a printing-press for the Army of the Crimea, was embarked the other day on board the *Express* steamer at Lyons. On it was to be seen this inscription—*Armée d'Orient—Impression Impériale*. Two of the best composers of the Imperial printing establishment of Paris accompany it.

* The Post Correspondent of Paris writes:—"I can assure you that Prince Napoleon indignantly repudiates the authorship of the pamphlet (the suppressed Pamphlet on the War) which has been attributed to him. At the same time the Prince allows that there are certain specific facts which may have derived their authority from letters or conversations of his. The moment the Prince heard of the Pamphlet he went to the Tuileries, and begged that inquiries might be instituted, and, for his own part, gave every possible facility in order to discover the real author."

SALE OF THE BERNAL COLLECTION.



GROUP OF MAJOLICA FAENZA OR RAPHAEL WARE.

"Maria Leekzinski, Queen of Louis XV." (by Nattier), "Madame de Pompadour" (by Greuze), and "Nell Gwynne" (by Lely), are extremely elegant. A small equestrian portrait of "William II. of Orange," by Cuyp, is genuine and carefully painted. Amongst the subject pictures—which are few, but of high quality—may be mentioned "The Annunciation," by Fra Angelico da Fiesole; "The Virgin and Infant Christ" (seated on a throne, with the Hospital of St. John at Bruges in the background), one of Hemmelinck's finest works; "The Riposo of the Holy Family and The Virgin with Infant," by Jean de Mabeuse, is of similar high character, and finished equal to the most laborious works of the later Dutch masters. "The Adoration of the Name of Jesus," attributed to Albert Durer, is interesting as containing portraits of Charles V. and other celebrated characters of that period.

Under the head of Miniatures, which include works nearly all the best painters, may be noticed "James I. and Anne of Denmark," by Hilyard; "Faustberg" (Cromwell's son-in-law), by Samuel Cooper; "Frederick, King of Bohemia," by Petitot; and a large elaborate subject by H. Bol, dated 1549.

Next in point of interest is the collection of Faenza Ware (or Majolica as it is sometimes called, from having originated in the island of Majorca) and Raphael Ware, from the Urbino manufactory, frequently representing the designs of that master. Of this there are about four hundred pieces; and it is believed that no other cabinet can at all compete with this either in the quantity or quality of its specimens, presenting a rare opportunity for the directors of our own Museum. Among them is the celebrated Stowe plate, and fine specimens with the monograms of Fra Xanto and Maestro Giorgio, which are very uncommon. Of this ware we have engraved a group of Vases. There are also a few fine specimens of the fine ware of Bernard de Palissy.

Since her Majesty has been graciously pleased to allow the superb specimens of Sevres porcelain contained in the Royal collections to be exhibited at Marlborough-house, the public have become familiarised with some of the most beautiful objects which have emanated from that renowned manufactory. In this particular, however, the Bernal Collection will not disappoint them, containing as it does about twenty vases of very great importance, and several hundred other specimens of the highest quality,—forming, doubtless,



GROUP OF VENETIAN AND GERMAN GLASS.

DOUBTLESS many of our readers will be desirous to know somewhat concerning this celebrated Collection (now on the eve of dispersion, and which forms, perhaps, the most complete illustration of French art ever made by a private individual; including, besides, a great quantity of works of other nations, collected with such a union of zeal and refined taste as are rarely to be found combined.

Having been formed almost entirely during the last thirty years, it of course falls short of the Strawberry-hill and Stowe collections in point of historical interest; but this is compensated for by its containing many interesting and beautiful examples from these and nearly all the other important cabinets both at home and abroad which have been dispersed during that period.

To do more than notice the most remarkable objects would require greater space than we can spare; and as numbers of our readers will doubtless have the pleasure of inspecting the entire Collection, it will be only necessary for us to point out the principal features, to assist them in doing so.

First amongst the most interesting portion are the Paintings and Miniatures, of which there are upwards of six hundred, many of them valuable not only as works of art, but as representing great historical celebrities, both English and foreign, of the last three centuries, terminating with the reign of Louis XVI. It is particularly rich in portraits of the sixteenth century, including many genuine works by Holbein, though not perhaps of the highest order of his productions. Of these "Nicholas Lord Vaux" (the poet), "Lady Johanna Abergavenny" (from Strawberry-hill), and "Ann of Cleves," are decidedly the best. The works of Francis Clouet, called Janet, are seldom seen to so great advantage as in the portraits of "Isabella, Queen of Charles IX." (which we have engraved), and "Eleanor, Queen of Francis I., and sister of Charles V., which two gems appear to have escaped the touch of the restorer. A noble portrait of the "Cardinal Chatillon," by Primaticcio, is so fine that, spite of the signature and date, it has been attributed by Dr. Waagen and others to Holbein—an error which may well be excused. The "Duke of Saxony and his Court," and a portrait of "Sybilla, Duchess of Saxony," by Lucas Cranach; the "Earl of Leicester and Queen Elizabeth," by Zuccheri; and "Lucy, Countess of Bedford," and "Jane, Marchioness of Winchester," by Mark Gerrard, are worthy of notice. A portrait of "Edward IV.," from the collection of the Leighs of Allington, is one of great interest. The portraits of "Anna Maria of Austria, Queen of Philip II. of Spain," by Coello, and "Marie Louise d'Orleans, Queen of Charles II. of Spain," by Velasquez, are very fine. The "Czar Peter Dining with the Mayor of Dorkum," is a curious work of Gerard Wigmanna, the self-styled Raphael of Friesland. There are most capital portraits of "Mieris," "Ludolph," "Backhuysen," and "Karel du Jardin," by their own hands. The Collection contains some of Rigaud's best works: amongst which may be noticed a small whole-length of "Louis XIV.," "The Comtesse de la Briffe" (known by the engraving of Drevet, &c.), "Mesdames La Vallière and Maintenon," by Mignard (the latter, from Quintin Crauford's collection.



PORTRAIT OF ISABELLA, QUEEN OF CHARLES IX.

as complete an illustration of this celebrated fabrique as is to be found in Europe.

The several German manufactures, as also the Oriental and Old Chelsea, are represented by superb examples; and the collection of Old Dresden can only be compared with the Sevres, both in magnificence and extent;—in addition to which there are two hundred snuff-boxes of the same material, probably the largest and most varied assemblage ever brought together.

Next in rotation comes the cabinet of Venetian and German Glass, which includes all the rare varieties, and numbers many hundred pieces. Of these we have engraved a group. The Enamelled German Glass is particularly interesting and fine, most of the specimens bearing dates.

The assemblage of Cologne Ware and Gris de Flandres is extensive and interesting, as illustrating the costume of the period. One jug has the arms of Queen Elizabeth.

The collection of Works of Mediaeval Art, of silver and other metal, cannot fail to excite great interest, including as it does very pure specimens of ecclesiastical ornaments, some of which it will be remembered formed part of the beautiful Exhibition at the Society of Arts in 1850, and a very fine assemblage of argenterie of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with several fine works of the Byzantine period. Of this portion of the Collection we have also engraved some specimens.

The cabinet of Limoges Enamels is very complete, and numbers above a hundred specimens by the Laudins, Courtois, Limousin, and other celebrated enamellers. We engrave a group.

The Collection of Armour and Arms, both European and Oriental, is very perfect, including a complete *cap-à-pié* suit of elaborately-chased Italian work, of the early part of the sixteenth century; and another of German globose armour, equally fine. A breast-plate is of russet steel, most elaborately chased and inlaid with gold, quite equal to the works of Cellini, though said to be of Spanish workmanship, of about 1560. A pair of pistols and dagger, of the time and style of Louis XVI., may rival the manufacture of any age. A court jester's helmet, with nose and moustache, in relief, is very curious.

There are also above one hundred watches and clocks, the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries: one of the watches is said to have been presented by Charles I. to Colonel Hammond.

The magnificent apartments are decorated with the choicest

productions of the French ateliers of the last century which supply the place of furniture. The names of Buhl, Reissner, Goutiere, and Chippendale will speak for themselves.

The sale, which is entrusted to Messrs. Christie and Manson, commenced at their rooms on Monday, and will continue thirty-two days. We shall illustrate a few more specimens.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF PICTURES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

I OBSERVE by several late issues of your paper that artists in England are taking Photography in hand, and with considerable success, judging from the woodcut copies of their productions in your Journal. It may be interesting to your readers to know that the subject is pursued with considerable vigour in some parts of the Continent; but, as far as my opportunities of observation have gone, it is brought to a greater pitch of perfection—at least, in one branch of the art—at Dresden than elsewhere. In the "Artistisch-Photographisches Institut, von F. and O. Brockmann, Albrechtgasse, No. 7," I lately had the pleasure of looking over a portfolio of Photographs, taken on glass and afterwards transferred to paper, from the magnificent collection of pictures in the Gallery of that city. Here I saw produced, with the fidelity of a pencil that could not err, the chefs-d'œuvre of Raphael, Rubens, Guido Reni, Holbein, Vanderwerf, Murillo, &c., which on the day previous I had admired in original on the walls of the Gallery. The beauty of execution generally, the delicacy and softness with which flesh and drapery were rendered, the clearness even to the very edges of the picture, and, lastly, the identity as it were of the copy and the original, claimed my warmest terms of praise. I purchased ten of the best specimens, and, on my return home, showed them to artists (painters) in Paris and to photographers in London. My judgment was fully confirmed by both, and they at once confessed that there was nothing produced in either of those capitals that could be compared to them. I made diligent inquiry in every shop where photographs were exposed for sale, if any copies of the originals in the Galleries at either capital were procurable. Sometimes the reply was in the affirmative, at others in the negative; but when in the former case the specimens came to be examined it was at once clear that they were photographs from engravings of the originals. In London, I was told, some attempts had been made on one occasion, which ended in an injury to one of the originals in the National Gallery, and that in consequence further experiments of such a nature were forbidden. However, Sir, I am a witness to the fact that the thing can be done most successfully without removing or touching the originals, provided there be sufficient light (a doubtful matter under the pepper-boxes of Trafalgar-square), and that the pictures are not too strong in certain colours which are antagonistic to the photographer's art.

I need not remind you or your artistic readers of the advantage that would accrue to the world if the great originals which enrich the Galleries of the different capitals of Europe could be reproduced in such quantities and on so diminutive a scale, that an artist might have duplicates of them in his studio, and that the traveller might bring away with him from every Gallery he visited absolutely accurate copies of the particular paintings that have won his admiration.

ZIGEUNER.



GROUP OF MEDIEVAL PLATE.



EWER AND TAZZA OF LIMOGES ENAMEL.



INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK, AT DUBLIN CASTLE.

INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK.

THE accompanying illustration represents the Investiture of Lord Cremorne and the Earl of Gosford with the Order of St. Patrick, as described in our Journal of last week. This Order was first established by George III. in 1783—an act of justice no less than of policy, as there were two Orders of England and one of Scotland, and it was essential to conciliate Ireland by some manifestation of the King's favour. The Royal warrant was issued in the February of the year above named, commanding Letters Patent to pass under the Great Seal of Ireland, "for creating a Society or Brotherhood, to be called KNIGHTS OF THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER OF ST. PATRICK." The Cross of St. Patrick (a red Saltire), and a Golden Harp (the ancient Irish Ensign), together with the national badge, the Shamrock or Trefoil (to which the Saint had given celebrity, were made its principal symbols.

The new Order consisted of the Sovereign, a Grand Master, and fifteen

Knights; and of six officers, viz.—a Chancellor, Registrar, Secretary, Genealogist, Usher, and King of Arms; to which number a Prelate was immediately afterwards added. His Majesty, his heirs and successors, Kings of Great Britain, were declared to be the Sovereign, and his Lieutenant-General and General-Governor of Ireland, or the Lord-Deputy or Deputies, or the Lords Justices, or other Chief Governor or Governors of that Kingdom for the time being, were to officiate as Grand Masters. Every person of or above the rank of Knight was eligible to be elected a Knight of the Order; but of the fifteen originally nominated, one was a Prince of the Blood Royal, one was a Duke, and thirteen were Earls of Ireland. The qualifications and forms of admission, the ceremonials, including investiture and installation, are similar to those in the Order of the Garter, the statutes of which were made, as far as is possible, the model of those of the new fraternity. The Prelate was to be the Lord Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland; the Chancellor was to be the Lord Archbishop of Dublin; and the Registrar was to be the Dean of the Cathedral Church of Saint Patrick for the time being. Ulster King of Arms and his successors were always to be the King of Arms of the Order; but all the other officers were to be appointed by the Sovereign.

The first Grand Master the Order was George Nugent Temple Grenville, second Earl Temple, afterwards created Marquis of Buckingham who was then Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

The most memorable installation was that held by King George IV. at Dublin, in 1821. After it a banquet was given in St. Patrick's hall, at which the Knights Companions sat at the Sovereign's table, which crossed the hall, according to the order of their stalls, together with the Prelate, Chancellor, and Registrar. There were also two tables running down the hall, which were occupied by the nobility and other persons of distinction, who had been specially invited; the Lord Mayor presiding at the one, and the General Commanding the Forces at the other. The general effect of the spectacle is said to have been most splendid; and the installation of the Knights of St. Patrick on that occasion will always form a memorable event in the History of Ireland. While his Majesty remained in Dublin he constantly wore the Star, Ribband, and Badge of the Order of Saint Patrick, and usually appeared with a shamrock in his hat.



SCENE FROM MEYERBEER'S NEW OPERA, "L'ETOILE DU NORD," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

CO., 42, Poland-street, Oxford-street, where one may be seen in daily use. The advantages of this Grate consist in the smoke being perfectly consumed, no chimney-sweeping being required, and a saving of from 40 or 50 per cent being effected in the cost of fuel. Prospectuses, with Testimonials, sent on application.



"IN THE TRENCHES. BEFORE SEBASTOPOL. — FROM A SKETCH BY J. A. CROWE, CORRESPONDENT OF "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS." — (SEE NEXT PAGE.)



SCENE IN THE 21-GUN BATTERY.

THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(From a Correspondent.)

I SEND two Sketches taken from Life in the Trenches. You may depend on their exact truthfulness: the want of finish to be found in them may be laid to my scarcely being able to hold a pencil in my hand from excessive cold.

First is a View in the 21-gun, or Gordon's Battery. The snow is melting, but large drifts and patches remain. The men are tired and fatigued with continued watching, and sickness. Injured guns are being remounted.

Next is a scene in a narrow ravine. The snow is above a foot deep. The sky is dark, and everything else perfectly white, except the forms of the men and stones, together with jagged rock, cropping out in ridges, along the right side of the ravine. The places where the men are sitting are low screens of loose stones, their only shelter by day or night.

"IN THE TRENCHES" BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

WHAT are the trenches? This is a question which appears to be generally asked, and never satisfactorily answered. In truth, the trenches mean all sorts of things. When on a dark night near Sebastopol an officer leads his men down the vale which runs at the base of Chapman's attack, and bears up for the friendly shelter of the high earthen battery, he is going to do duty in the trenches. When he leads his sentries forward from the shelter of the work, and posts them in the sinuosities of the ground in front of the battery, or when, in discharge of a different duty, he places his party behind a projection of earth or rock to cover the battery, he is still said to be doing duty in the trenches. If he marches down a parallel to the very extreme verge of the advance, and lies with his men in a breastwork which barely covers him, in a recumbent position, he is still "in the trenches." The term so used applying to every portion of the works in front of a besieged fortress. It is evident from this that the trenches are at all times a place where soldiers are subject to danger, and that, in many places, that danger is by no means

inconsiderable. Amongst the safest of the positions in front of a beleaguered fortress are those of the parties which guard a breaching battery in its complete state. The height of the work is so great (nine feet) that cannon balls pass harmless over unless they enter the embrasure and shells burst so high or so distant as to be comparatively harmless. The breadth of the foundations of the earthwork makes it proof against a cannon-ball, no matter how heavy, and constant exposure to the fire only solidifies the mass and makes it more compact. At the same time that danger from the front is guarded against, satisfactory means are employed to prevent the dangers resulting from a flank or enfilading fire: and the heavy abutments, which may be seen in our Illustration, are a safeguard against an enfilading fire which might not only be dangerous to life, but also to the safety of the guns. It appears probable that the Russians had but feeble abutments in the left face of their Great Redan; for, on the 17th of October, when our fire was opened, we overthrew every gun in it, even before the moment when the Russian magazine exploded with such dreadful noise and havoc. Notwithstanding all precautions however the most perfect battery is a



BUTTLING PICKET OF THE 10TH REGIMENT IN THE SNOW, IN THE MIDDLE RAVINE, BEFORE S. BASTOPOL.

post of danger. And mortar shells, especially, being cast up at a very elevated angle, fall into the most sheltered places, where they fret, and fume, and burst, scattering their fragments in a dozen directions and to great distances. The most practical mode of avoiding this danger is by lying flat on the ground, and it is a method practised continually with wondrous efficacy. The more exposed portions of the trenches—such as breastworks or small shelters used by advanced parties—are by no means so pleasant to remain in. Not only are they much more open to the heavy metal of the hostile cannon, but they are occasionally visited by the sharp pinge of the Minie bullet, which whistles through the air, and patters over the stones and ground with a whizzing sound, as if it were an angry bee whose privacy had been disturbed, and wrath excited in consequence. Nor are the trenches more remarkable for the comforts which they possess. In the best of times it requires long habit to lie upon the bare earth and catch a brief nap in the intervals of sentry reliefs. But when the snow is lying on the ground, or the soil is hardened by the frost, the most favoured spots are but poor comfort, when compared even with the worst-appointed tent within the Camp.

We have endeavoured to give in the Illustration an idea of that portion of the trenches which is generally considered safest, that in the interior of one of the batteries constructed neatly with sand-bags, of a white-grey colour, and gabions or fascines, whose dark and rugged sides are relieved as dark spots upon the lighter grounds. The fore-part is strewn with empty powder-cases, made of shining tin, with little boxes which have once contained shells, and with remnants of gabions, pieces of projectiles, stones, and earth in various shapes.

THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

NICHOLAS PAULOWITCH, late Emperor of Russia, was born at St. Petersburg on the 7th of July, 1796, being the third son of the Emperor Paul, by his second wife, Mary of Wurtemberg. Of his father, whose brutal eccentricities amounted to insanity, and who was murdered by his nobles in consequence of an alliance which his infatuated admiration for the Emperor Napoleon I. had induced him to contract, it is unnecessary to speak. The boy Nicholas was not five years of age when the night palace murder of March 23, 1801, made him an orphan. His brother Alexander was enthroned, and took the oath at the hands of his father's assassins, having been privy to the murder, and having been, when it was perpetrated, in the room immediately below. The Empress, his mother, a woman of intelligence, superintended the education of Nicholas, which she committed to General de Lambsdorff, who was assisted, amongst others, by the Countess de Lieven, the philologist Adelung, and the Councillor Stork. At an early period Nicholas applied himself with great ardour to military pursuits, in which he evinced considerable proficiency, especially in the art of fortification. He also studied the science of political economy; and became as familiar with the French, German, and English languages as with his native tongue. When the French invasion took place, Nicholas was too young to take part in the noble defence which Russia made, or to join in those great military operations which ultimately led to the overthrow of Napoleon and the occupation of his capital. On the restoration of peace in 1814 he left Russia to travel, and visited the principal battle-fields of Europe. On returning home he visited the different provinces of Russia, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the actual condition of the population. In July, 1817, he married Charlotte Louisa, the eldest daughter of Frederick-William, of Prussia, and sister of the present King. Four sons and three daughters are the issue of this marriage, the eldest son, Alexander Nicolaievitch, having been born in the year 1818.

At this time Nicholas had little expectation of obtaining the Imperial Crown; but in the year 1825 his eldest brother, the Emperor Alexander, died at Taganrog, in the Crimea, it is supposed by poison. The next heir to the throne was the Grand Duke Constantine, who was then at Warsaw, and Nicholas hastened to take the oath of fidelity. Constantine, however, whether voluntarily or by compulsion, had entered into an engagement to Alexander, in which he renounced his eventual claims to the throne, and the document attesting this act was in the hands of Nicholas, when he received the news of the Emperor's death. Nicholas, whether sincerely or otherwise, it is not known, refused to accept the homage offered him by those who were aware of the actual state of things, and loudly professed his allegiance to Constantine, the new Emperor. Meanwhile, Constantine, who was at Warsaw, was taking the oath to Nicholas, in accordance with the act in question, which he had secretly signed on the occasion of his marriage with the daughter of a private Polish gentleman. Nicholas, with expressions of regret, then ascended the throne; and now came a terrible struggle. A vast conspiracy, composed of two classes—the enthusiastic lovers of liberty and the old Russian party, the supporters of Constantine—was formed. Their tactics were to spread a report in the garrisons of the empire that the abdication of Constantine was a forgery; and to appeal to the soldiers, in the name of loyalty, to rise and put down what they represented to be a *coup d'état* against legitimacy. On the 26th of December the oath to Nicholas was to be taken by the garrison of St. Petersburg. Several regiments swore allegiance; but the Moscow regiments, the Marines of the Guard, and the Grenadiers refused the oath; and marched through the streets and squares, shouting for Constantine. Nicholas saw all from his palace windows. The insurrection was speedily suppressed with grape shot. Nicholas then descended, and confronted the remaining rebels. Standing before them with haughty bearing, he cried in a firm tone, "Return to your ranks—obey—down upon your knees!" The energy of his voice—his countenance calm, though pale—and the veneration with which every Russian regards the person of his Sovereign—prevailed. Most of the soldiers knelt before their master, and grounded their arms in token of submission. To the intrepid self-possession of that hour he is indebted to the continuance of his authority. Victory was now easy. He retired from the spot. Wherever resistance was made the artillery played upon the gathering crowds, and the fire of musketry completed the work of destruction. The hopes of the Liberal and old Russian party having been thus quenched, Nicholas found himself the sole and absolute master of the gigantic Russian empire. Immediately afterwards five scaffolds were erected on the esplanade of the fortress of St. Petersburg; thirty-six noble persons were executed, and eighty-five sent to Siberia. From that time Russia Proper has been exempt from outbreaks, if not from conspiracies, and the late Czar was left free to carry out his ideas of government.

In September, 1826, the Emperor was crowned at Moscow with great pomp and ceremony. The Greek insurrection, to which the policy of Alexander had secretly contributed, served to extend the influence of Russia in the East, and in 1828 war was declared between the young Emperor and the Sublime Porte. In 1829 the peace of Adrianople was concluded, by which Nicholas was permitted to retain authority in Wallachia and Moldavia, and the Porte agreed to indemnify the expenses of the war by a payment of eleven millions and a half of Dutch ducats—a sum from which three millions were afterwards deducted. But, whatever may have been his designs against the empires of the East in the earlier period of his reign, they were suspended, and a different character was given to his policy for twenty years by the French Revolution of 1830.

In 1830 the Polish revolution broke out; but England and France remained neutral; and Austria and Prussia aided the Czar in crushing the insurgent patriots. After an heroic resistance Poland was reconquered—the Russians entered Warsaw, and an iron despotism was substituted for the semblance of constitutional Government which previously had been permitted to exist. A citadel was built on the heights above Warsaw; and when, in 1835, the citizens went out to compliment the Czar, pointing to the citadel, he exclaimed—"You see that fortress; if you stir, I will order your whole city to be destroyed—I will not leave one stone upon another, and when it is destroyed it will not be rebuilt by me."

He succeeded in 1832 in establishing a Russian army on the Bosphorus, and extorted the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi from the failing hands of Sultan Mahmoud. From that period, indeed, throughout his whole reign the under-current of Russian intervention in the affairs of Turkey may constantly be traced until it reached in 1853 that catastrophe which has for the last two years convulsed Europe. In 1840 the insidious propositions of Russia being adopted by the British Government and by that of Austria led us to the brink of war with France, and engaged us in military operations in Syria; but, with this exception, the peace of the world remained undisturbed until 1848. Upon the occurrence of that political earthquake, which shook half the thrones of Continental Europe, the Emperor Nicholas alone seemed quite prepared to meet the shock, and completely unmoved by its violence. His forbearance seemed equal to his strength. He was prudent enough to seek no pretext for interference in the affairs of other States, although he did not refuse assistance to his brother Emperor when it was required; he took no unfair advantage of the weakness and confusion of other countries, and the advice he tendered was invariably favourable to the cause of conservatism. The conduct of the Emperor Nicholas during those eventful and perilous years, from 1848 to 1851, raised him higher in the estimation of many persons than he had ever stood before; he was regarded as one of the wisest, as well as one of the most powerful, Sovereigns of

Europe; and those even who detested his despotic Government could not deny that he had shown moderation, and a strong desire for peace.

His reign lasted twenty-nine years, three months, and one day, a much longer term than the majority of his predecessors reached, and quite as long a one as he himself anticipated.

THE DEATH OF THE CZAR.

[The following memorandum has been communicated to the *Times* by Dr. Granville, the English physician, who formerly enjoyed the professional confidence of the Russian Imperial family. The document purports to have been addressed to Lord Palmerston, from Kissengen, in Bavaria, in July, 1853.]

My Lord.—Failing in my endeavours to meet with your Lordship at the appointed interview at the House of Commons on the 22nd ult., at which I proposed to make a *viva voce* communication of some importance to the Government, as I thought, concerning the present political discussions with Russia, I stated, in a second note, written at the moment of my departure from England for this place, that I regretted the disappointment, inasmuch as the subject of the intended communication, from its delicate nature, did not admit of being committed to paper.

I think so still. But, on the other hand, the necessity of the Government being put in possession of the communication appears to me to become every day so much more urgent, that if it is to be of any use it must be made at once, or it will fail to direct Ministers in time, as I think the communication is capable of doing, in their negotiations with Russia, and in their estimation of the one particular element which, I apprehend, has first provoked, and is since pushing on, the Emperor in his present reckless course.

Mine is not a political, but a professional communication, therefore strictly confidential. It is not conjectural, but positive, largely based on personal knowledge, and partly on imparted information accidentally obtained—it is not essential that I should say from whom, for I take the responsibility of the whole on myself, inasmuch as the whole but confirms what I have myself observed, studied, or heard on the spot.

The Western Cabinets find the conduct of the Emperor Nicholas strange, preposterous, inconsistent, unexpected. They wonder at his demands; they are startled at his state papers; they cannot comprehend their context; they recognise not in them the clear and close reasoning of the Nestor of Russian diplomacy, but rather the dictates of an iron will to which he had been made to at his name; they view the Emperor's new international principles as extravagant; they doubt if he be under the guidance of wise counsels. Yet they proceed to treat, negotiate, and speak as if none of these perplexing novelties in diplomacy existed on the part of a Power hitherto considered as the model of political loyalty. The Western Cabinets are in error.

The health of the Czar is shaken. I. has become so gradually for the last five years. He has been irritable, passionate, fanciful, more than usually superstitious, capricious, hasty, precipitate, and obstinate withal—all from ill-health, unskillfully treated; and of late deteriorating into a degree of cerebral excitement which, while it takes from him the power of steady reasoning, impels him to every extravagance—in the same manner as with his father in 1800; as with Alexander, in Poland, in 1820; as with Constantine at Warsaw, in 1830; as with Michael, at St. Petersburg, in 1848-9. Like them, his nature feels the fatal transmission of hereditary insanity, the natural consequence of an overlooked and progressive congestion of the brain. Like them he is hurrying to his fate—sudden death, from congestive disease. The same period of life, between 45 and 60 years of age, sees the career of this fated family cut short.

Paul, at first violent and fanatical, a perfect lunatic at 45 years of age, is dispatched at 47, in 1801.

Alexander dies at Taganrog in December, 1825, aged 48. For five years previously his temper and his mind had at times exhibited the parental malady by his capricious and wayward manner of treating the Polish provinces. He died of congestive fever of the brain, during which he knocked down his favourite physician, Sir James Wylie—who assured me of the fact at St. Petersburg in 1828—because he wished to apply leeches to his temples.

Constantine, eccentric always, tyrannical, cruel, dies at Warsaw suddenly, in July, 1831, aged 52 years, after having caused rebellion in the country by his harsh treatment of the cadet officers. I saw and conversed with him on the parade and in his palace at Warsaw, in December, 1828. His looks and demeanour sufficiently denoted to a medical man what he was and what his fate would be. It has been said that he died of cholera; again, that he had been dispatched like his father. The Physician-in-Chief of the Polish Military Hospitals assured me some years after that he had died apoplectic and in a rage.

Michael, after many years of suffering from the same complaints which afflict his only surviving brother—enlarged liver, deranged digestion, and fullness of blood in the head—became, in 1848-49, intolerably irritable, violent, and tyrannical to his own officers of the Artillery and Engineers' service, of which he was the supreme chief. In July, 1849, he consulted me at St. Petersburg. It was after he had passed in review the whole train of artillery which was leaving the capital for Hungary, at which review I was present and near him, and witnessed scenes of violent temper towards Generals and Aides-de-Camp hardly equalled in a lunatic asylum. I found him as described above. I advised cupping, diet, non-exposure to the sun and to fatigue, the administration of suitable medicines, and the cessation from drinking steel mineral waters, of which he was fond ever since he had been at Kissengen. His physician, the younger Sir James Wylie (himself since suddenly dead), assented reluctantly, but did not carry my advice into execution. The Grand Duke, in the state he was, unrelieved by any medical measure or proper treatment, joined the army, rode out in the sun, and fell from his horse apoplectic in September, 1849, aged 48.

To complete this disastrous picture of the grandchildren of Catherine, their mother, Maria of Wurtemberg, a most exemplary Princess, died apoplectic in November, 1829, scarcely more than sixty-five years of age. The attack, mistaken for weakness, was treated with stimulants and bark by her physician, Ruhl, and bleeding was only had recourse to when the mistake was discovered—but too late to save. The mock and mild Elizabeth had but a short time before followed her Imperial partner, Alexander, to the grave, in the still fresh years of womanhood, fifty years of age.

During my second sojourn in St. Petersburg, in 1849, for a period of ten weeks. . . . What the opinion was of the Emperor's health—what acts of his came to my knowledge, which bespoke eccentricity—what were the sentiments of his physician, Dr. Mandt, who, homoeopathist as he is, and exercising a most peremptory influence over his master, leaves him, nevertheless, unrelieved, except by mystical drops and globules—what transpired of political doctrines and opinions, or, in fine, what I gathered afterwards at Moscow on all co-equal points, must be left to your Lordship's conjecture—not difficult after all I have divulged. To go further would be like a breach of trust, and of that I shall never be guilty.

In all I have related there is nothing that had been committed to me as a privileged communication; while the imperative requirements of the moment calling for its immediate divulgement I hesitate not to make it, under the firmest conviction that my fears and anticipations will be surely realised.

If so, then the method of dealing with an all-powerful Sovereign so visited must differ from the more regular mode of transacting business between Government and Government. For this purpose it is, namely, to put her Majesty's Ministers on their guard accordingly, that I have determined to place in your Lordship's hands the present professional information, which must be considered as so strictly confidential that I shall not sign it with my name.

That I have selected your Lordship as the channel of my communication rather than the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to whom more properly it should have been addressed, will at once appear natural to your Lordship. In my capacity of once, and for some years, your Lordship's physician (though not now honoured with that title), your Lordship has known me personally, and is convinced that what my pen commits to paper may be taken as coming from an honourable man and your obedient servant.

N.B. an acknowledgment of the receipt of this letter came by return of post in Lord Palmerston's handwriting.

Memorandum.—At an interview with Lord Palmerston, Feb. 23, 1854, on matters of a private nature, his Lordship was pleased to ask me before we separated whether I still adhered to my opinion and prediction. I replied that before July, 1855 (the Emperor would then be fifty-nine years old), what I had anticipated would happen. "Let but a few reverses overtake the Emperor," I added, "and his death, like that of all his brothers, will be sudden." It has proved so. Alma, Inkerman, Balaklava, shook the mighty brain. Eupatoria completed the stroke, which has anticipated my prognosis only by a few weeks.

SHAMEFUL CONDUCT OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT.—A few weeks ago a cargo of Belgian paupers and criminals, sent over by the Belgian authorities to the United States, arrived in New York. They were seized and thrown into prison, where they have till the present time been humanely treated. A correspondence at once took place between the authorities and the Belgian Consul. At first it was stoutly denied that the men in question were criminals or paupers; but, when it was conclusively proved that they were both, and demand was made upon the Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium to send these men back to the country they came from, he refused to do it, and the Mayor of New York has declared that he will do it himself. He will; and it will be a lesson that all European Governments will have to learn, that they can no longer send their paupers and criminals to the United States. They will be sent back; and if the thing is kept up, such a state of feeling will arise in the United States towards the Governments of Europe, as no friend of peace or humanity would contemplate with any satisfaction.—*Letter from New York.*

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

UNTIL we find ourselves approaching the grand climacteric, and we feel that a clear conscience and a good digestion suffice to content most of our earthly aspirations, we are apt to consider that the chief happinesses of life depend, more or less, upon excitement. We are far enough from being deprived of this stimulus in these fortunate, though foggy, islands. We have our domestic dramas, our divorces and our disappointments, our ingenious robberies and our abominable crimes, just like the rest of mankind; and we have, besides, our manufacturing strikes, our political crises, and our administrative mismanagements rather more constantly than other folks; but one thing in the way of popular excitement, which has lately been continually, and in perfection, enjoyed by "our lively neighbours," the French, we totally lack—namely, the suppressed pamphlet. There was Victor Hugo's "Napoléon le Petit"—(which I take leave to say, in a parenthesis, was a libel, though not a bit worse than what our newspapers are in the daily habit of saying of each other, or of any public men who don't happen to agree with their *chefs de file*)—the mere existence of which in a portmanteau would probably, if discovered over the water, have sent the owner to Cayenne. There was the "Carte d'Europe Reconstituée," whose (supposed) illustrious author must assuredly have suppressed it himself, but which managed to get loose nevertheless; and now we have "La Conduite de la Guerre d'Orient"—purporting to be a memorial addressed to the Government of the Emperor of the French by a General Officer. The titlepage of the copy before me further informs us that it is "Edition autorisée pour la Belgique, l'Allemagne, et l'Angleterre!" Excellent! Here you have the true history of the "suppressed pamphlet," partially killed, it may be, at home, but doubly vivacious just where you would like it to be particularly dead—*videlicet*, abroad. If I were a despotic monarch, and felt anxious to circulate any special views as widely as possible, I would certainly have a pamphlet written which should embody them, and then suppress it with all the rigour of my police. There seems to be little doubt that the general officer spoken of in the title of this much-cavassed brochure—being, however, not the author, but the inspirer—is the Emperor Napoleon's next heir and cousin, the Prince Napoleon Jerome, very generally known by a less dignified name, that of "Chou-chou." The authorship is very generally, but, I believe, falsely, attributed to M. Emile de Girardin, the proprietor of the *Presse* newspaper, whom the Chamber of Deputies treated so abominably under Louis Philippe by refusing to recognise him as one of their body on the ground that he was a natural son. That any "General Officer" should be found to write, or at least to father, a pamphlet, the chief object of which is to throw obloquy on the memory of a brave man whose body is yet scarce cold in the grave—the gallant St. Arnaud—may well excite astonishment; that that General should be one nearly allied to the Throne, and whose inexperience should have made him diffident of thinking, far more of expressing, a judgment on the conduct of one who, with all his faults, was a *soldier*, and the story of whose last hours, during which with almost more than human energy he made his death agonies subservient to his will, is still fresh in our memories, is something more than wonderful. Without prejudging the future, it may be said that so far the French Emperor has shown himself to be a great man. Should he have no direct heirs, it is to be hoped that he will take such measures as may preclude the sceptre of France from passing into the hands of Prince Napoleon Jerome, if, indeed, he have anything to do with the pamphlet before us.

So much for the spirit in which this now celebrated brochure is written, which is as bad as the time chosen for its publication is inopportune. Its argument may or may not be correct; which is, shortly, that the Allied forces had no business in the Crimea, but ought to have pursued the retreating Russians into Wallachia.

Rarely has an event occurred which has raised such commotion in the minds of men as the death of the Emperor Nicholas. Utterly unexpected as it was (for though it now appears that he had been seriously ill for the previous ten days, we then knew it not), the news of it fell upon the western world with the shock of a thunderbolt. Nicholas Romanoff, the greatest Prince that the world has seen, except Napoleon and Charlemagne, is gone to his account, and Civilisation and Industry are the more hopeful for his disappearance. Alexander rules in his stead, and the quidnuncs of the House of Commons, and the male Cassandras of the Clubs, are, as usual, wrong again. With what a pitying smile and contemptuous shrug they used to beg you not to believe that there could be such a thing as legitimate succession to the throne of Russia! "Constantine, my good sir, is the man: the army swear by him, so do the navy, and Menschikoff and the old Russian party; and you'll find him a deuced deal worse for England than ever his father was. As for the Tsarovitch, they'll put him out of the way, if he doesn't retire of his own free-will." Alas! for these judges of Israel!

Events now succeed each other with such startling rapidity, that it is good that Cabinet Ministers and Generals should always keep a portmanteau ready packed. The news of the Russian Emperor's death only arrived on Friday afternoon; and on Saturday morning Lord Clarendon was at Boulogne, in conference with the Emperor of the French (who was there on a flying visit to the Camp) upon the subject of the possible alteration in the state of affairs which this event might cause. It is not likely that there will be any diminution in the efforts now making by the Allies to send troops and *matériel* to the Crimea, as it is clearly expedient to redouble our blows, now that we have a better chance of winning the game; but, if rumour speak truly, a most unfortunate discussion took place between our Foreign Secretary and the Emperor on a collateral point. It is said that Louis Napoleon objected in the strongest manner to the continuance of Mr. Roebuck's Committee, and declared that, if it were not got rid of, either by a dissolution or otherwise, the French and English forces might continue to act for the same end, but all idea of cordial alliance between them must be considered as out of the question. That this is very generally believed there can be no doubt; and, consequently, reports of a dissolution have been flying about the clubs and the City, to the partial discomfiture of the three-penny Cuts, which had jumped up on the Czar's decease. Yet we cannot bring ourselves to put faith in it, partly because Louis Napoleon, who from long residence in this country is half an Englishman, knows quite well how bad a thing for both countries a dissolution would be at present; and partly because it is already clear that the examinations of the Committee, such as they are, decidedly tend to compliment the French at the expense of the English army, as far at least as management goes, which appears to be the only subject likely to be taken into consideration.

So much for politics. Since last week there have been, among others, two curious legal cases reported in the papers, which will bear remark. One occurred at the Mansion-house, where a dozen Leadenhall-market salesmen were "pulled up," and fined for having, contrary to law, game in their possession more than ten days after the close of the shooting season. The Act is clear on the point, so there was no help for it; they were fined, and the birds confiscated. Yet this seems hard, inasmuch as a pheasant killed on the 1st February would certainly, seeing the frost that prevailed, have remained too tough to be eaten till near the end of the month.

THE AMERICAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—Serious apprehensions have for some time been felt in reference to the fate of Dr. Kane, and his companions on the American exploring expedition that was sent out in search of Sir John Franklin. A law has been passed by the United States Congress authorising another expedition to be dispatched in search of Dr. Kane, and the Secretary of the Navy has been instructed forthwith to send steam-vessels for this purpose. A commission has been appointed to select the steam-powered vessels to be used, and they will get under way with all possible dispatch.

PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF.

ONE of the last acts of the late Emperor of Russia is said to have been the recalling of Prince Menschikoff from the command he has held in Crimea since the commencement of hostilities. His successor in that highly responsible position will be Prince Gortschakoff, who commanded the Russian forces last year in the Principalities. If it be also true, as is stated in letters from Berlin, that General Rudiger has been summoned from the high position he held in the army in Poland to take the direction of the Ministry of War, in place of Prince Dolgorouki, and that General Bebutoff, the Home Minister of the Empire, is to be removed, we may now take leave of Prince Menschikoff, whose name has been, and will ever remain, so unfortunately mixed up with these transactions. He was chosen by the late Emperor as one of the principal members of the old Muscovite party in the State, to proceed on the mission to the Porte which gave the signal of this contest. He performed that mission with consummate arrogance; and, if his object was to pick a quarrel, no envoy could have been better chosen for that purpose. Unconciliating, and even uncouth, in his manners—unacquainted with the forms of diplomatic intercourse or the political dangers he called into life, Prince Menschikoff succeeded in nothing but in rousing the spirit of the Divan to all the ardour of resistance, and in enlisting the sympathy of Europe on the side of his victim. The day of his leaving Constantinople was virtually the commencement of hostilities; and the master in whose service he had undertaken this mission was destined never more to know an hour of success or repose on this side the grave.

Prince Menschikoff, in his capacity of Admiral, Head of the Fleet, and Minister of Marine, has continued with great energy to face the storm he had drawn down upon his country. His abilities as a commander of troops in the field do not appear to have been equal to his presumption, and the battle of the Alma first told him how ill-prepared the forces under his command were to meet the picked troops of England and France; but it is due to him to acknowledge that he has shown very great energy and inexhaustible resource in the defence of Sebastopol. There is no example in history of defences and works of so extensive a character thrown up by a besieged garrison in presence of a powerful enemy; and the highest compliment which can be offered to Prince Menschikoff is the simple statement of fact, that on the 26th of September the place was almost open, and only defended by the vessels in the harbour; but that, five months later, and in spite of continual attacks, the town is supposed by many persons to be impregnable to any direct assault. If Prince Gortschakoff is destined to hold the supreme command of the Crimean army, and General Ostensacken to command under him, the Allies will have no reason to regret the change.



PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF, LATE COMMANDER OF THE RUSSIAN FORCES IN THE CRIMEA.

The appointment of Count Rudiger to a higher position in the Government is deemed creditable to the sagacity of the new Emperor. This officer was the same who entered into negotiations with Georgey in 1842 to bring to a termination the Hungarian campaign, and who afterwards endeavoured to check the reactionary measures taken against the

Magyars. He is a man of experience and moderation, whose influence is likely to be decidedly opposed to that of the fanatical Russian party, which has attempted to give to this war the character of a national crusade. If it be the resolution of the new Emperor to persevere in the negotiations which are about to open at Vienna, and to make the necessary concessions for the restoration of peace, he will need the authority of wise and firm counsellors to render that peace acceptable, and even endurable, to the Russian nation. Its ambition has been deceived, its aggression has been punished, its armies have been defeated, and its own territory invaded; but, in spite of the sufferings occasioned by this war, the resources of the Russian Empire are not yet so thoroughly exhausted, and public opinion, even in that country, is not so dead but that any Government must justify the terms of peace to its own subjects, if that peace is to be lasting and secure. In some respects the Government which has now succeeded to the direction of affairs may have greater difficulties to surmount in this matter than that of the Emperor Nicholas, which could have imposed upon the country any treaty he thought fit to sign. It may be a question whether his son and successor has power to lay the phantoms which the father had so imprudently raised; but this question depends on another—whether the spirit and energy of the Russian people is thoroughly engaged in this war, as the partisans of the Czar pretended, or whether they are anxious to terminate its evils as speedily as possible.

We do not here enter into the long official career of Prince Menschikoff, as we gave in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for December 10, 1853, an extended biographical memoir of the Prince, accompanied by a Portrait.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO CHATHAM.

ON Saturday morning last, at half-past ten o'clock, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, proceeded by way of the Bricklayers' Arms station, along the North Kent line, to Chatham, for the purpose of inspecting the wounded soldiers from the Crimea. In the carriage with the Queen were their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Duke of Cambridge. Viscount Hardinge also attended her Majesty. The battalion of Royal Marines, with their splendid band, was in attendance at the Strood station, which was appropriately fitted up for her Majesty's reception. A substantial platform, sufficiently high to be level with the door of the Royal carriage, was laid down, and was covered with scarlet cloth, so that her Majesty and the Prince passed comfortably from one carriage into the other. Her Majesty proceeded through Rochester and Chatham—the inhabitants of both of which towns evinced their loyalty in the most enthusiastic manner—to the Government



HER MAJESTY INSPECTING THE WOUNDED TROOPS, AT FORT PITT HOSPITAL, CHATHAM.



HER MAJESTY INSPECTING THE WOUNDED GUARDS IN THE GRAND HALL OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

House, the residence of the Commandant, Colonel Eden, and from thence to the hospital at Fort Pitt.

On arriving at Fort Pitt her Majesty was received by Dr. Dartnell, the chief medical officer, and by the other officials of the establishment, who conducted the Royal party through the hospital. Her Majesty visited every ward in succession, and approached the bedside of every invalid, to each of whom she addressed some kind remark. The attention of her Majesty was particularly called to one of the invalids, an old man named George Hayward, who has been an inmate of the hospital upwards of thirty years. In the course of the inspection, her Majesty gave directions to Dr. Dartnell to prepare a return of the name of every patient in the hospitals at the time of her visit, the nature of his wounds, and where and how received, with directions to forward the same to her. The patients who were not confined to their beds were drawn up in one part of the hospital, and these were also visited by her Majesty, who took great interest in their maimed and mutilated appearances, asking several questions of them, and addressing words of kindness to the brave fellows, who expressed the fullness of their feelings for her Majesty's condescension by cheers, which were hearty, and meant also to be loud. Lord Hardinge accompanied the Queen through the hospital, her Majesty frequently asking questions of his Lordship as particular cases attracted her notice.

The Royal party then drove to the Invalid Hospital, at Brompton Barracks, which has been fitted up by the Board of Ordnance for the reception of wounded troops. On arriving at this hospital, shortly after twelve, her Majesty and Prince Albert were received by Dr. Reed and Dr. Atkinson, of that establishment, by whom the Royal party were conducted through the very extensive wards. At this hospital there were about three hundred wounded soldiers, and her Majesty evinced the same anxiety to make herself acquainted with the details of each case, as she had done at Fort Pitt. His Royal Highness Prince Albert was also deeply solicitous for the welfare of the brave fellows, and frequently made inquiries of them as to the nature of their wounds, &c. The Duke of Cambridge was most cordially received by the men, his Royal Highness entering into conversation with several of them whom he appeared to remember. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred were near her Majesty during her tour through the wards. The inspection of the troops in this hospital lasted till one o'clock, at which hour her Majesty retired amid the loudest demonstrations of applause from all assembled.

It was anticipated that her Majesty would pay a visit to the Garrison Hospital, and also to Melville Hospital, and arrangements had been made with that view; but on leaving Brompton Hospital her Majesty did not signify her pleasure of visiting those establishments. The number of invalids visited by her Majesty amounted to 492; but, exclusive of this number, a considerable number are also in the Garrison Hospital.

The Royal party drove direct from Brompton Barracks to the Strood terminus, and were immediately conducted to their seats in the Royal carriage, immediately after which the train was set in motion, and the Royal party returned to Buckingham Palace.

THE WOUNDED GUARDS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

At the inspection of the wounded and disabled Guards by the Queen, the other day, in the Grand Hall, at Buckingham Palace, these heroic soldiers appeared before their Sovereign in the very clothes they wore in battle, and most of them were dressed in their coats and foraging caps. Those who were unable to walk from the barracks were conveyed to the Palace in an omnibus. The Queen addressed each man, asking particularly about his wounds, how long he had been ill, whether he still felt any pain, and if the change to his native air had been beneficial to him, with many other inquiries, all dictated in the most kind and gracious spirit. Some of these veterans, for so they have earned the right to be called, had strange tales to tell their Sovereign. One had been left for dead upon the field during many a weary hour, another had received five bayonet wounds, a third had lost an eye in a most extraordinary manner, a fourth had lost his hands in the very act of presenting his gun to fire, when they were struck by an enemy's ball, and some even showed the Queen the holes in their coats through which the bullets had entered when they were wounded. After her Majesty had heard their narratives from the men themselves, the Surgeon-Major of the regiment gave an official report to the Queen, and her Majesty made inquiries of that officer respecting the general state of the health of the men. After the inspection, the invalid Guards were, by Royal command, marched to the servants' hall, where the very best banquet their medical officers would permit them to have was served to them. The repast necessarily consisted of the plainest viands. So delighted were these brave fellows with their Sovereign's kindness and condescension that nothing could restrain them, after dinner, from giving three vigorous cheers for the Queen. The most provident care was taken that the men should not injure their health; and the surgeon having recommended that porter should be served to them instead of ale, a plentiful supply of that national beverage was provided.

Nearly all these men bear too plainly the marks of the fearful struggle in which they were engaged, and are unfortunately disabled from further service in the Army. Several of them, having been but a short time in the Army, will be entitled to only a small amount of pension; and the bare idea that men who have performed such feats of valour in the service of their country should be left to struggle with penury and destitution cannot be for a moment tolerated. Many of these men, although unfit for military service, are quite capable of duties where steady habits of discipline, trustworthiness, and obedience are required, and would rejoice in any employment that would enable them to maintain their independence. They are well suited to act as private watchmen, gatekeepers, porters, or warehouse-keepers, and as porters in attendance upon passengers at railways would be highly useful. It is to be hoped that the generous feelings manifested in innumerable instances by the public during the present war will not fail to find employment for these noble fellows. We are glad to learn that every opportunity of employing them in the Royal parks will not be forgotten.

THE FOOT-MARKS IN THE SNOW, IN DEVON.

(We select the following from several additional communications upon this inquiry):—

In addition to what I said in my letter of the 28th ultimo, relative to the "Foot-marks in the Snow in Devon," it appears to me that, as the "snow lay very thinly on the ground at the time," as stated by your Correspondent, such was the reason why the inner part of the tracks was not so clearly defined as the outer part of them; therefore the outline reversed would look like a donkey's track, as stated in my previous letter; and I presume the heel of the tracks has been taken for the forepart of them.

If birds made the tracks, they probably were either web-footed ones or waders—most likely the latter, as they could run much swifter and better across the country.

Dr. Buckland, in his "Bridgewater Treatise," vol. ii. p. 39, in speaking of tracks in new red sandstone, set forth in plate 26A of that work, says—"None of the footprints appear to be those of web-footed birds; they most nearly resemble those of Gallinæ (waders), or birds whose habits resemble those of Gallinæ. The impressions of three toes are usually distinct, except in a few instances; that of the fourth or hind-toe is mostly wanting, as in the footprints of modern Gallinæ."

Now, if the foot-marks in the snow were made by waders, the shallowness of the snow is a sufficient reason why the impression of the fourth or hind-toe was not made (as in the cases noticed by Dr. Buckland), and with respect to web-footed birds their hind-toe is very small.

The size of the tracks in the snow—namely, four inches by two inches and three quarters—shows that they must have been made by very large birds (if they are attributable to them), and the probability is that some waders were frozen out by the severity of the weather from the shores of the rivers or estuaries of the sea, and that they ran over South Devon in the night of the 8th ult. in search of food, and afterwards mounted aloft, as cranes do, before the dawn of day.

If the bird theory is correct, perhaps some one skilled in ornithology may, from the size of the tracks, and the distance (eight inches) of the stride between them, give some idea what species of bird it was.

Tivoli House, Cheltenham, 3rd March, 1855.

JABEZ ALLIES.

Saint Mary's Church, Torquay, Devon, 3rd March, 1855.

Having seen in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS sketches of the foot-prints made in the snow in this neighbourhood by some animal unknown, and as various conjectures are made as to what animal has thus travelled over fields and gardens, and after going clean over house-tops has not been stayed by a tidal river two miles wide, I send you an attempted explanation of the affair. There are certain times and seasons for the pairing and breeding of animals accurately fixed by Nature. The green plover is frequently caught in the snow in Scotland after his arrival in that country, and he must bear it as best he can, and why should not other animals have to face the snow-flake in the breeding season, and have to travel a weary way before they can make their beds and lay them down in peace! This, I am persuaded, is the hard fate of the animal who has caused such unwonted prints upon the snow in Devon; is a

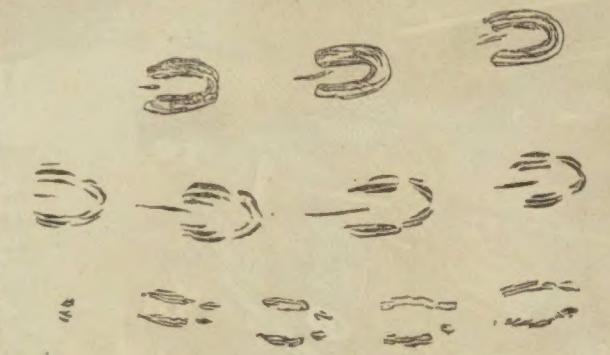
infer from the simple fact of finding the marks of the animal first, and then finding the carcass with the evident marks of a violent and sudden death in the track. It was neither bird nor beast that made the marks, but a reptile; not only putting his feet and claws (for he had claws) to the ground, but his belly too; hence the puzzle of the large print made in a line by his four feet and his belly all at once, every time he hopped. At the twenty-first mile-stone from Exeter, and third from Torquay, a large toad was found by me in the turnpike-road, crushed to death by a carriage-wheel; the track of the same was well defined for some distance along the road, and was exactly as described by your Correspondents and illustrated by you.

The time for frogs and toads to spawn in Devon is rather earlier than in the north. Frogs are scarce here, but toads are not; and as Shaldon village lies against a steep hill, the houses admit toads to travel over them easily; and all toads that are to breed must travel to the water to do so, be the distance more or less; and as nobody turned out this unfortunate toad to seek his mate and meet his death, it has no doubt been the fate of others like him to have had a trip on the snow-flake.

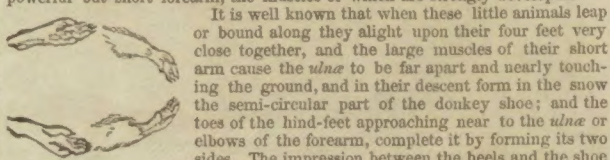
ALEX. FORSYTH.

BALLINGDON, near Sudbury, Suffolk, March 3, 1855.

The foot-marks described by your Devon Correspondent are made, in my opinion, by the poor despised and insignificant rat. My brother lives in a house a quarter of a mile from Sudbury, surrounded by fields and gardens: he called my attention to the foot-marks of rats about his garden, and we found they had laid siege to his potato clamp. Tracing the depredators, he exclaimed, the Devonshire donkey has been here! and, on examination, I found the foot-marks exactly to agree with those described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for last week. We found the marks of no other mammalia, except of the rabbit, and no one would suppose they could all be made by the same kind of animal. The snow being drifted, and, consequently, of varying depths, afforded me an opportunity of observing the cause



of the variety of the foot-marks. Where the snow was only one inch deep, marks were very distinct: in one they were caused by the rat walking slowly on all his toes; in another track he is evidently trespassing on the heel, as does the bear, the rabbit, and the squirrel; in another track the donkey-shoe form is more clearly defined, which is caused by the snow being deeper. The rat is an expert climber, though far inferior to the squirrel, whose conformation his greatly resembles: they are provided with a very powerful but short forearm, the muscles of which are strongly developed.



It is well known that when these little animals leap or bound along they alight upon their four feet very close together, and the large muscles of their short arm cause the *ulna* to be far apart and nearly touching the ground, and in their descent form in the snow the semi-circular part of the donkey shoe; and the toes of the hind-feet approaching near to the *ulna* or elbows of the forearm, complete it by forming its two sides. The impression between the heels and the shoe

is made by the rat's tail. I should have said the distance from the toe of one impression to the heel of the preceding one was eight inches. THOMAS FOX.

We agree with a Correspondent that the following attempted solution, from the *Brighton Guardian* of Feb. 29, between its jest and earnest, is calculated to envelop the subject in deeper mystery:—

Is it not possible—nay, probable—that these are the footprints of that animal so accurately described by Biom Heriolfson, the Icelandic navigator, who visited the coasts of Labrador, A.D. 1001, and to whom, with Lief, Baron Humboldt, in his "Cosmos," attributes the discovery of America? The records of this event are both numerous and authentic, and have received ample confirmation from the researches of Rafn, the greatest Northern scholar of our times. Biom Heriolfson describes an animal, which he terms the Unipede, or Uniped, as having a foot similar to that represented by the copy given in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, with the exception of an almost imperceptible division in the outer and inner circles of the hoof. The character of the limb was, in his opinion, a stranger phenomenon than its singleness, for it partook rather of that of a quadruped than of that of a bird. He informs us that the wings appeared to radiate from the middle of the back with the feathers spreading out in a manner similar to those in the tail of a peacock; but they were slightly divided into two equal parts when the bird was in motion. Moreover, the uniped had the power, when alarmed or excited, of erecting a single crest of feathers above the head so peculiar and striking that an opinion prevailed among the learned of Iceland that this animal was the unicorn, hitherto considered fabulous. Let it be remembered that the inhabitants of Iceland, during the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, created and maintained, amidst its snows and volcanic fires, a literature which would have honoured the happiest climes of Europe. Biom Heriolfson, in completing his description of the uniped, states that the organs of vision approximated so closely that they had the appearance of a double eye. This bird, he affirms, flew, or rather ran, with incredible swiftness, touching the ground frequently and at equal distances. Thus the footprints would be in a direct line. In conclusion, your readers may rest assured that the dimension of the tail of the uniped is just one half of that of a great dodo.

We find the following in the *Inverness Courier*:—"The foot-prints seen in this neighbourhood were traced for a considerable way across the fields, and at the Longman, and again at the Crown, near the house of Abertarf. Many of our townsmen went to see the phenomenon, and one brought home a lump of the snow, in which the foot-prints were strongly impressed, exhibiting it as a very curious and mysterious occurrence. The cloven hoof had an ominous and by no means prepossessing look! Fortunately, however, an observant naturalist had already examined the foot-prints and decided the point. Some animal, probably a hare or polecat, had traversed the field at a gallop with its feet close together. The paws had become slightly filled with snow, so that only the round form was impressed, and the open space between them left a slightly-raised and pointed mark like the centre of a cloven hoof. This gentleman followed the track till, on ascending a slope, the animal appeared to have slackened its pace to a trot, and then left upon the snow distinct impressions of its four feet. Further on, the animal seemed to have sat down on the snow, and again its four feet were distinctly traced. Nothing more was desired—the mystery was traced.

ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND.—The Royal Commission of the Patriotic Fund has issued a circular, stating that the following will be the scale of allowance from the 1st of March for the widows and orphans of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the army and marines, and petty officers and seamen of the navy:—

Army and Royal Marines.	Corresponding Ranks, Royal Navy.	Widows.	Weekly Allowance.				
			If with a Family living with the Mother.				
			One.	Two.	Three.	Four.	Five.
Staff Non-commissioned Officer	Class. 4th.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sergeant (Colour Sergeant)	5th.	6 0	7 0	8 0	8 6	9 0	9 6
6d. a week additional.	6th.	5 0	6 0	7 0	7 6	8 0	8 6
Corporal or Bombardier	7th.	4 0	5 0	6 0	6 6	7 0	7 6
Drummer, Trumpeter, or Private	8th.	3 6	4 6	5 6	6 0	6 6	7 0

Sixpence additional per week to be given to every infirm person.

As the foregoing scale for widows and orphans must necessarily be influenced by the various circumstances of every case, although the scale is to be the general rule, the Committee are to be at liberty to deviate from it in cases calling for the exercise of their discretion; sickness and lying-in, for example, will admit of exception.

COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS TO THE SEAT OF WAR.—As there is reason to believe that the rule requiring the prepayment of the postage upon letters addressed to officers, soldiers, and seamen, serving in the Army and Navy at the seat of war, is not generally understood, the Post-office authorities call the particular attention of the public to this regulation, inasmuch, as letters which are not prepaid are detained at the General Post-office, for the purpose of being opened and returned to the writers. The same regulation applies equally to letters addressed to officers and seamen in the Transport Service in Turkey and the Black Sea.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF ST. PETERSBURG.

In her amusing "Letters from the Baltic," Miss Sedgwick (now Mrs Eastlake), transported by the strange, and yet splendid, appearance of St. Petersburg, indulges in a rhetorical rhapsody which would have much scandalised Dr. Hugh Blair. She says:—"The real and peculiar magnificence of St. Petersburg consists in thus sailing, apparently, upon the bosom of the ocean into a city of palaces."

But inasmuch as St. Petersburg, of which she speaks, does not sail into a city of palaces, its magnificence must consist in something else. If the lady meant that the magnificence of St. Petersburg consisted in her sailing into the midst of its palaces; we can hardly agree even with that observation; although the accession of a charming stranger could nowhere be more valuable than in a city where the ugliest native women in the world are to be found. It was a magnificent city, however, before she sailed into it, and magnificent after she sailed away. What the authoress evidently intended to imply is, that one of the most splendid impressions which the visitor can obtain of the beauty of the great northern capital is by making the sea entrance to it, and by sailing, not "apparently," but in act and truth, into the very midst of its brilliant edifices. And this, at least, is perfectly exact. Such an approach must, of course be made in summer. The weather is then dazzlingly bright, and as hot as that of Marseilles. You have been some time without incidents and without a view, gently borne over the short chopping "mutton waves" of the Baltic. Upon a sudden, as if by magic, the horizon flashes upon you a blaze of glory—painted cupolas, superb towers and steeples, and the radiance of burnished gold from innumerable domes, shining with an unspeakable lustre in the pure air and powerful sunlight of a Russian summer; and almost immediately (so low and so long-concealed is the situation of St. Petersburg) the massive and imposing structures of this city of yesterday, stretch around you on every side, and welcome the ship in their gigantic embrace. You thus land on the English Quay, "Angliiski Nabreshnaya;" it begins below the bridge on the left bank of the river.

Nevertheless, we say it without hesitation, whatever pleasure may be derived from this approach, and from thus sailing into a city of palaces, ninety-nine visitors out of every hundred will experience a far more exquisite pleasure when they sail out of it again. This is no speculative opinion; it is the lesson of our own well-remembered experience. It is, with all its architectural splendours, the gloomiest, the dreariest, and the most miserable abode in which we ever had the ill-luck to dwell. The physical atmosphere is pure; but the moral atmosphere is oppressive, stifling, dark with suspicion, with profligacy, with the sense of treacherous scrutiny and domiciliary espial, and with the all-pervading influences of tyranny above, and servile degradation around. However, our business at this moment is not with Petersburg in its social or political condition, but with Petersburg in its aspect and site. The mistake of Peter the Great in choosing such a situation at all for a maritime capital is an old story; but there is the further mistake of having selected a morass for the immediate building ground. The place is nothing but a swamp drained; and the canals which are so much admired, along which people row in summer evenings to take tea with each other, and which give a very picturesque Venetian sort of air to the town, serve in reality a more practical and necessary object—they are the great sewers, which contribute to make the place habitable. Another most serious disadvantage is, that the Neva is liable to overflow its banks. Some of the greatest disasters to which a populous and wealthy town can be exposed, have befallen Petersburg, through these inundations. Then the Isaac Plain becomes a lake, and the streets are turned into rivers as deep as the first-floor of the houses. We could tell some painfully romantic stories in connection with these catastrophes. But they would trespass on the space required by our present subject.

When we remember the very recent foundation of St. Petersburg, and that it cannot count more than fifty years for every five centuries, or one century against ten, during which Paris and London have been growing, it is indeed an amazing spectacle. On the other hand, this very newness has been of immense advantage to the Russian capital. It began with the improved forms of modern towns. It has no wilderness of slums and courts to remove; no crooked, narrow, impracticable lanes to rebuild into commodious thoroughfares; none of the architectural entanglements of barbarous times to remodel. From the first, it arose on a metropolitan plan—grand, airy, and penetrable. At this moment, though not numbering one half the Paris population, it covers as large an area as Paris. And this is the work of about one hundred and twenty years.

Let us now turn again to our Panorama. By far the most important part of the city stands on the further bank of the Neva, as the reader looks at the scene; that is to say, on the left bank. On this side, there is, however, the fortress; so situated, that, if the Governor were corrupted—and it is the first attempt in every conspiracy to gain him or to replace him—it would not require ten minutes to blow to pieces the winter palace of the Emperor, on the opposite shore, and to reduce to obedience the entire capital. On the same side as the fortress, and almost in it, a little behind to the left, is the cemetery of all the Emperors. Further up that bank, the town stretches into suburban villas, embosomed in trees, the impenetrable shade of which in summer makes them valuable to all who do not escape wholly into the country. Down the same bank, are some islands connected with the main land by bridges; of these grove-covered islands, which are the resort of pic-nics in the hot months, the largest and most beautiful is that of Basil—Vassili-ostrov (ostrov meaning an isle). Beyond is the Gulf of Finland, the waves of which sprinkle the very trees, so close down to the margin does the thick and pleasant wilderness extend. That is in the further island.

If we now cross the river by that bridge of boats to the right, or, better still, by the truly magnificent new bridge of granite, we come upon probably the largest and finest square in the world—the celebrated Isaac Plain, in which the Emperor Nicholas quelled by personal "derring-dee" the dangerous insurrection which greeted his accession to the throne. Before you towers the mighty equestrian statue of Peter the Great, in an attitude and position to furnish a living model for which to the sculptor it is said that Count Orloff, Catherine's favourite, imperilled his neck, in that very fashion, on the back of a thoroughbred horse, which he galloped to the brink of a precipice, and then checked.

To your right hand, running out of this square, stretches the English quay, and parallel with it, behind, several smaller streets, one of which you enter under an archway. The rest of that front of the square is occupied with the Senate House—a name which is but a mockery of freedom in reference to the scene of servile deliberations. Beyond this the Mall, with some terraced walks under a few trees, runs out of the square, parallel still with the English Quay. That is the west side. The south is filled with the Isaac Church, not yet finished; for they say that the late Emperor harboured a superstition that he would not survive the year in which it should be completed. It is designed to take rank among the greatest and most splendid fanes in the world. The interior will have the peculiar beauty or effect derivable from innumerable columns of malachite; and in many parts the walls will shine with rare decorations, and be literally encrusted with silver, gold, and gems. At right angles with this square, and opening into it, is another, not quite so capacious, extending before the Winter Palace and the Admiralty. If you reckon both these vacant places as forming one "square" (not of course geometrically), there is nothing so large in any other city. In the smaller square, which is oblong, and which is surrounded by magnificent palaces and public piles, occur, in winter, the games of the ice-hills, the carnival fair, and the sports of swing, merry-go-round, common people's theatricals, &c., under the very windows of the Emperor. The present palace was completed in two years (to replace the palace just burned) by an army of builders, working night and day without intermission.

Now being in the Isaac Plain, or rather in that space which abuts upon it, and which is called the Admiralty-square, you see running south, as straight as an arrow, the Regent-street of Petersburg, the Nevski Perspective. This crosses all the canals on pretty bridges—one of them adorned with specimens of colossal bronze sculpture, famous all over the world—and traverses the entire city between lines of lofty and massive granite mansions. About half-way you pass the Casan Church, the name of which is taken from a town in Turkey, under the Balkan. There is no plate-glass in the shop-windows; many shops, indeed, are under ground, with a sign of a glove, or whatever else, to tell you where to descend—all sombre, though imposing.

Returning back to the Admiralty-square, if you pursue the transverse road, and proceed up the left bank of the Neva, you pass the Hermitage, and Constantine's Marble Palace, and many other superb piles; and in a few minutes you are in the Champ de Mars, about one-third smaller than that of Paris. Beyond it is the Summer Garden, with its bowers, walks, and statues; and, just outside of this, the Paul Palace.

The most curious effect in the whole city is, after all, produced by the domes of the churches. These generally consist of a substance compounded of gold, and, we believe, zinc.

We have given a fair description of the odd beauty of the scene; and, knowing all that such a point is worth, we repeat that there are few places in the world pretending to civilisation which, as a residence, could give less satisfaction to a stranger than this gorgeous capital.

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